WARREN MAGAZINE
EERIE #74
MAY 1976

THIS ISSUE: MERLIN, THE SORCERER, CONJURES A KING!

EERIE

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MARAUDING BANDITS FACE THE OLD MAN WITH THE SILVER BRACELET...

...AND THE TERRIFYING "DEMONS OF JEDEDIAH PAN!"

WELCOME TO EERIE-LAND, YA-LITTLE DOLTS! AND YA BETTER LIKE IT... A LOT!
YA SEE, COMPLAINTS HURT MY LITTLE ELMO'S SENSITIVE EARS!
BUT THEY JUST MAKE BIG SAM THERE MIGHTY HUNGRY!
ART: AURALEON

OUR COVER
Jedediah Pan . . . and his demon servants, Balam, Belial and Belphegor . . . by Ken Kelly! Jedediah faces Frito's banditos in a hair raising adventure beginning on page 5!

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EERIE®

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MAY 1976

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13 **FATHER CREATOR** He was the elected caretaker of the universe . . . chosen, among all living beings, to oversee all sentient creatures. With the help of the Mother Computer, he created leaders . . . messiahs . . . to safeguard his flock. But could the half-mad god save himself?

21 **MERLIN: A SECRET KING** Uther Pendragon had died, leaving behind a secret heir. Merlin had taken the babe, born much too soon for propriety after his parents wedding, and raised him to kingly virtues. Now, to prove himself worthy, the boy must pull a magic sword from a stone!

41 **THE EXPEDITION** It was thirty degrees . . . bitter cold for northern Louisiana. But Stone insisted that he and Turner continue on their camping trip. And Turner was increasingly convinced that Stone was leading him into a trap . . . that Stone would use him as fodder for a monster!

52 **THE 1975 WARREN AWARDS** The 1975 Warren Awards honor the outstanding achievements among all the fine work published by Warren in 1975. We congratulate the winners. And thank them for the talent, dedication and plain hard work that produced outstanding art and stories!

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In 1965 Warren Publishing Company produced and sold a limited number of copies of EERIE #1 (front cover shown at left). This issue measured 5¼" wide x 7¼" high, and was printed on special paper, using special staples. The entire issue was composed of 24 pages with a self-cover.

This particular issue was originally published to establish and protect our United States Copyright and Registration of the title EERIE—at a time when a competitive publisher attempted to infringe on our rights.

It has recently come to our attention that this issue has been counterfeited and sold to unsuspecting collectors and fans for considerable sums of money. Those responsible for this deliberate act, as well as the printer who produced it, are liable for criminal action. Warren Publishing intends to vigorously pursue its legal rights in this matter and will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law.

If you have recently purchased what was represented to be "an authentic copy of EERIE #1" send this copy directly to Mr. James Warren, Warren Publishing Company, 145 E. 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016, along with all details concerning the purchase price, from whom the purchase was made, etc. We will return your copy, advising whether or not the issue is genuine. Anyone having any information concerning the individual or individuals involved in the production or selling of these counterfeit copies is urged to forward said information directly to Mr. Warren. All replies received prior to the correct identification of those responsible will be acknowledged by Warren Publishing Co.

The DEMONS of JEDEDIAH PAN

1912. THE OLD WEST WAS JUST ABOUT AS OLD AS IT WAS GOING TO GET. TOM SWIFT, THE ELECTRIC CARRIAGE, AND COCA-COLA WERE ON THEIR WAY ***IN***. GUNSLINGERS, THE HORSE AND BUGGY AND SASPIRILLA WERE ON THE WAY ***OUT***. TECHNOLOGY WAS BURYING THE FRONTIER KNEE-DEEP IN TIN CANS, COKE BOTTLES AND WORN AUTOMOBILE TIRES.

NEW MEXICO WAS A YOUNG STATE THEN, PEOPLED BY THE "WEALTHY, INDUSTRIALIZED AMERICANOS." IT WASN'T RARE THAT NEIGHBORS TO THE SOUTH OF THE NEW STATE MADE OCCASIONAL NORTHERN JAUNTS TO ***OBTAIN*** SOME OF THAT WEALTH AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT.

THEY ROBBED, KILLED, RAIDED AND GENERALLY HAD THEMSELVES A ***GOOD*** OLD TIME.

LOOK, FRITO! A TRAVELLING VENDOR. PERHAPS ***HE*** WILL HAVE THE CORSET CONCHITA HAS ***WANTED***...

...THEN SHE WILL NOT BREAK YOUR ***LEGS*** AGAIN!

STORY: BILL DuBAY / ART: JOSE ORTIZ

GENTLEMEN! GENTLEMEN! GOOD DAY TO YOU ALL!
AND WHAT A FINE DAY IT IS TO HAVE ENTHUSIASTIC CLIENTELE LIKE YOURSELVES GREETING OLE DR. BOTTLES IN SUCH A FRIENDLY, SMILING MANNER!
FRITO! I THEENK WE HAVE STUMBLED UPON A LOONEY! HE DOES NOT REALIZE WE COME HERE TO KEEL HIM!

PERMIT ME, SIRS...
...I AM DR. PERRY BOTTLES...INVENTOR, DISTILLER AND SOLE RETAILER OF THAT WONDROUS NEW DRUG TO CURE ALL ILLS... DR. BOTTLES' MIRACLE MOONSH--! ER... WONDER ELIXIR!

WE NEED ONLY A CORSET FOR CONCHITA, WAX FOR YAFATA'S MOUSTACHE ...
...AND, OF COURSE, ALL THE MONEY YOU ARE CARRYING, SENOR DOCTOR!

OH, SIRS, I FEAR YOU HAVE COME TO THE WRONG ESTABLISHMENT! I HAVE NO CORSETS...NO WAX... OR MONEY FOR THAT MATTER!
HOWEVER, MAY I INTEREST YOU IN A SMALL TIN OF AXLE GREASE? IT MAKES AN EXCELLENT HAIR CONDITIONER!
I DEAL ONLY IN PHARMACEUTICAL GOODS AND MEDICINAL CURES!
Dr. Bottles' Marvel MIRACLE WONDER ELIXIR
THIS WONDER DRUG YOU SELL...IS IT GOOD FOR PAIN?

GUARANTEED TO CURE HEADACHES, BACKACHES, TOOTHACHES AND HALITOSIS! IT'S THE PERFECT SUPPOSITORY!
IT ALSO MAKES AN EXCELLENT MOTOR FUEL!
TOOTHACHES?

I HAVE HAD A TOOTHACHE SINCE LAST CONCHITA ROLLED TORTILLAS, DOCTOR.
?URP!?
YOUR DRUG TASTES OF DISTILLED GRAINS, DOCTOR.
IT MAY NOT CURE FRITO'S TOOTHACHE... BUT IT WILL CERTAINLY NUMB HIS SENSES!

I'M GLAD YOU FIND IT SATISFACTORY, FRITO. THAT WILL BE ONE DOLLAR, PLEASE!
ONE DOLLAR? HO! HO! HO! SENOR DOCTOR MAKES A FUNNY, MI AMIGOS!
HA HA HA

IN ITS BAWDIEST YEARS, THE OLD WEST WAS THE BREEDING GROUNDS FOR MEN WHO BECAME ***LEGENDS***. JESSE JAMES. BUTCH CASSIDY. ROY BEAN. WYATT EARP.

LEGENDS CONTINUED TO SPAWN IN THE FRONTIER'S ***TWILIGHT*** YEARS. LESSER ILLUMINARIES SPRANG INTO PROMINANCE OVERNIGHT, THEIR HEROIC DEEDS OR GIFTED CONSMANSHIP BLASTING THE FRONT PAGES OF BOTH TABLOIDS AND DIME NOVELS.

ONE SUCH FIGURE OF QUESTIONABLE REPUTE WAS ***JEDEDIAH PAN***... EX-CON, EX-SCHEMER, AND EX-LEADER OF THE NOTORIOUS WILD WOODCHUCK GANG.

PAN HAD ***EARNED*** HIS REPUTATION AT CRUCIFIXION HILL, NEW MEXICO, WHERE HE HAD TRIED TO OVERRUN A TOWN OF EIGHTEEN FRIGHTENED PEOPLE WITH HIS HORDE OF THIRTY-TWO EX-GUNFIGHTERS, TWELVE AGING EX-CONFEDERATE MERCENARIES, TWO CRIPPLED BANDITOS AND THREE MIDGET DEMONS OF RATHER DUBIOUS ORIGIN.

HE WAS DEFEATED BY A MERE BOY WHO ***THREW*** HIM THROUGH THE WINDOW OF THE TOWN'S GENERAL STORE.

MY GOOD SIR... WHAT ARE YOU DOING ***HANGING*** ABOUT A PLACE LIKE THIS?

AFTER HIS HUMILIATING DEFEAT, JEDEDIAH'S ARMY ***DESERTED*** HIM, AND THE OLD MAN DRIFTED FROM ONE TOWN TO THE NEXT, DILIGENTLY WORKING AT ENOUGH ODD JOBS TO KEEP HIM IN WHISKEY AND HIS PACKARD IN PETROL.

IT WAS RUMORED THAT JEDEDIAH WAS IN POSSESSION OF A MARVELOUS, MYSTERIOUS BRACELET, CAPABLE OF SUMMONING THREE FEROCIOUS DEMONS FROM THE DEPTHS OF HELL... THE ***SAME*** DEMONS HE HAD CONJURED IN HIS ILL-FATED CRUCIFIXION HILL FIASCO.

THE NAME'S ***DR. PERRY BOTTLES***...

...AND I FEAR, MY FRIEND, THAT I AM THE ***CHEESE*** IN A RATHER ELABORATE MOUSE TRAP!

AND ***YOU***, SENOR, ARE THE ***MOUSE***...

...JUST IN TIME FOR ANNUAL ***MOUSE ROAST***...

...UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU HAVE ***MONEY***, SENOR... THEN YOU WILL NOT HAVE TO ***ATTEND***!

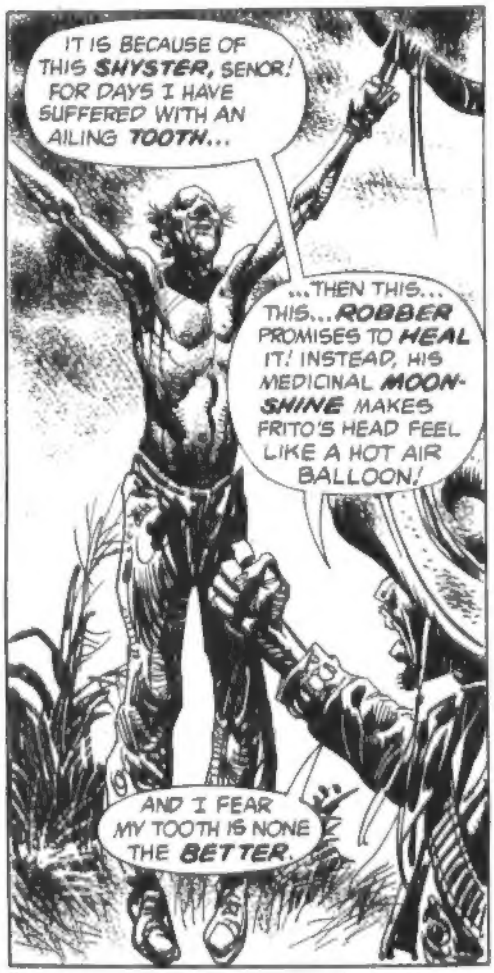
JUST MY ***LUCK***! I SPENT MY LAST TWO BITS AT THE LAST PETROL STOP!

I AM SORRY TO HEAR THAT, SENOR. BUT THERE IS ***YET*** HOPE. YOU WOULDN'T PERCHANCE HAVE A ***CORSET*** ON YOU?

STOPPED WEARING THEM AFTER MY ***HERNIA*** OPERATION!

OH, TOO BAD. NOW FRITO WILL BE FORCED TO HANG YOU WITH THE GOOD DOCTOR!
BUT FIRST, SENOR, THERE IS YET A BOTTLE OR TWO LEFT OF THE DOCTOR'S MIRACULOUS ELIXIR.
IT WILL CURE ALL YOUR ILLS BEFORE WE KEEL YOU!

IT IS NOT A BAD TEQUILLA SUBSTITUTE EITHER! HA! HA!
OOOH!
YOU SEEM TO BE IN PAIN, MY BANDITO FRIEND.


IT IS BECAUSE OF THIS SHYSTER, SENOR! FOR DAYS I HAVE SUFFERED WITH AN AILING TOOTH...
...THEN THIS... THIS... ROBBER PROMISES TO HEAL IT! INSTEAD, HIS MEDICINAL MOONSHINE MAKES FRITO'S HEAD FEEL LIKE A HOT AIR BALLOON!
AND I FEAR MY TOOTH IS NONE THE BETTER.

PERHAPS I CAN HELP.
I HAVE, IN MY TIME, DABBLED A BIT IN DENTISTRY!
AH HA! I SEE THE PROBLEM!
OH, THIS IS SERIOUS!
W-WHAT IS IT, SENOR?

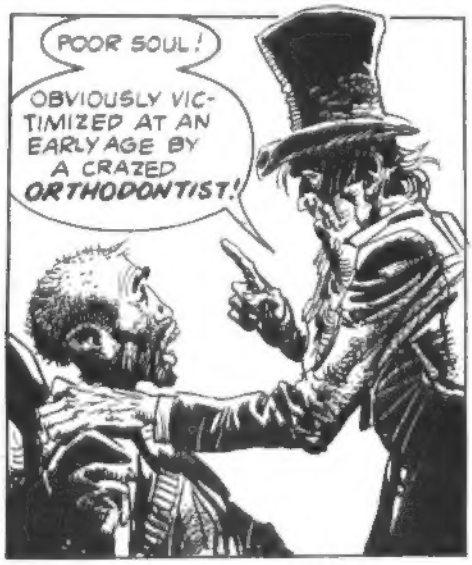
HOW CAN I TELL YOU THIS, FRITO...?
YOU SEEM TO HAVE CONTRACTED THAT MOST DREAD AND DANGEROUS OF ALL ORAL DISORDERS...
...AN INCURABLE AND HIGHLY CONTAGEOUS CASE OF FOOTUS IN THE MOUTH!

I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE TO STOP THE DISEASE FROM SPREADING!
THAT'S PASQUAL, SENOR.
OH, DEARIE ME... THIS IS SIMPLY DREADFUL! PANCHO HERE IS SUFFERING FROM THE SAME AFFLICTION.

HIS NAME MATTERS NOT. FOR ONCE YOU'VE GOT FOOTUS IN THE MOUTH, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE BRAINROT SETS IN.
TCH! THIS ONE'S BEYOND HOPE!

EVERY ONE OF YOUR MEN HAS BEEN INFECTED, SENOR FRITO.

¿AARGH!?
I FEAR I AM TOO LATE TO SAVE ANY OF THEM!


POOR SOUL!
OBVIOUSLY VICTIMIZED AT AN EARLY AGE BY A CRAZED ORTHODONTIST!

WE ARE IN YOUR DEBT, SENOR. THANKS TO YOU, FRITO'S BANDITOS ARE ONLY NOW AWARE OF THEIR INTENSE PAIN!
IS THERE NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO SAVE US, SENOR?
LUCK IS WITH YOU THIS DAY, FRITO.
I JUST HAPPEN TO HAVE, HIDING IN THE BOOT OF MY HORSELESS CARRIAGE, THREE OF THE FINEST DENTAL HYGIENISTS IN THE COUNTRY!

BUT, SENOR...WHAT ARE THEY DOING IN YOUR TRUNK?
IT'S AN INCREDIBLE TALE, MY FRIEND! SUFFICE TO SAY, THERE IS A HIGHLY ANGERED AND SOMEWHAT TOOTHLESS OLD LADY HOT ON OUR TRACKS!
NEVERTHELESS, MY ASSISTANTS ARE CONSCIENTIOUS TO A FAULT. THEY WILL CURE YOUR MALADY OR DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK!

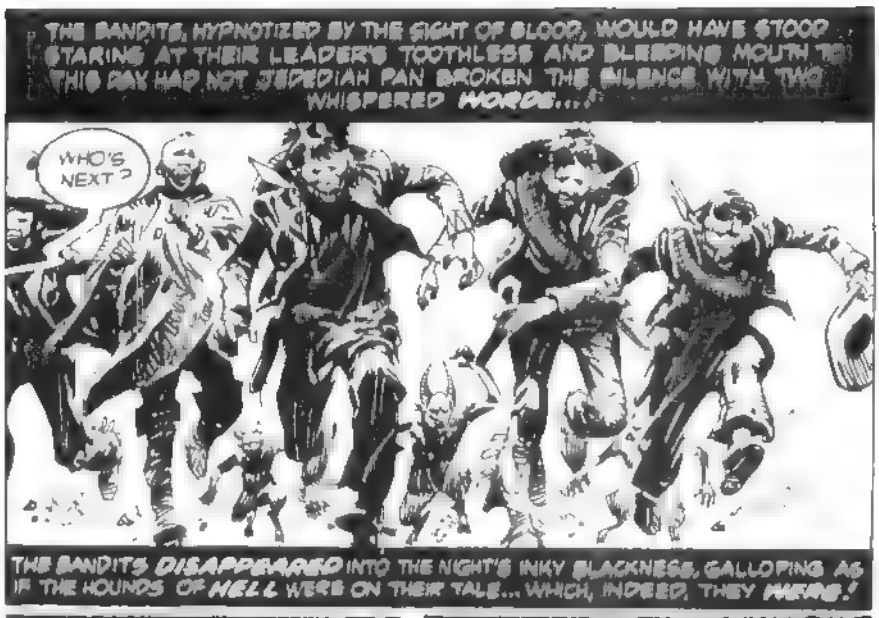
GOOD! THE AUTO IS OBSTRUCTING THEIR VIEW. THE BANDITS CANNOT SEE ME CONJURING THE DEMONS!
BELIAL! BALAM! BELPHEGOR! APPEAR TO ME NOW!
POOF!
PFOOT!
POOT!

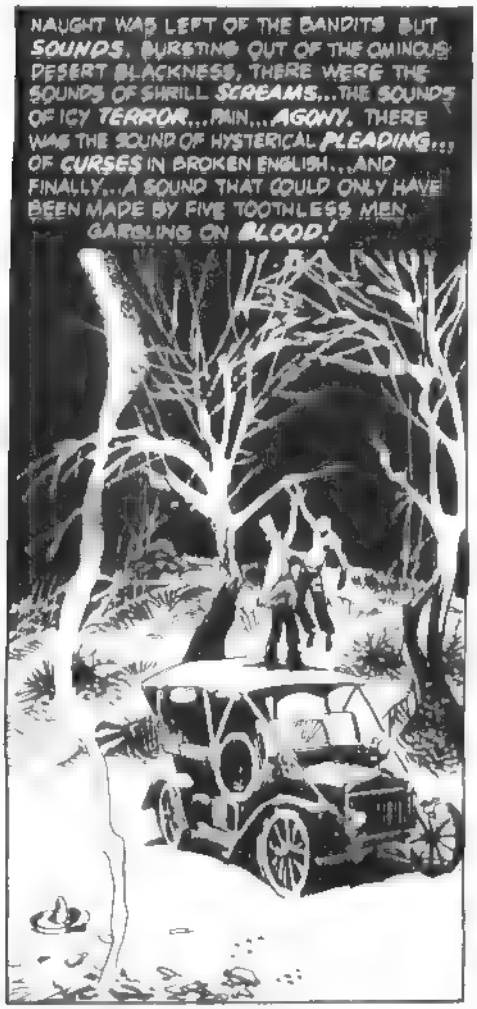
THE OPERATION FOR FOOTUS IS NOT WITHOUT ITS DRAWBACKS, HOWEVER.
THERE IS A CERTAIN DEGREE OF PAIN INVOLVED ...AS WELL AS SOME NASTY BLEEDING!
MY FRIENDS... YOUR PATIENTS!
MADRE!

THEY WILL ADMINISTER TO YOU FIRST, FRITO...
...AND WHEN THEY ARE DONE, YOU WILL NEVER AGAIN HAVE A TOOTH PROBLEM!
AA'EE!

DIOS! POOR FRITO! BUT IF EET IS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE HEEM FROM THE DREAD DISEASE--!
H-HEES TEETH! T-THEY ARE REEPING OUT ALL HEES TEETH!!
AGHLG!

A BLOOD-CURDLING SCREAM SEEMED TO FREEZE AND DIE IN FRITO'S THROAT AS THE DEMONS CONCLUDED THEIR "TREATMENT". MERCIFULLY HE COLLAPSED INTO PAIN-NUMBING UNCONSCIOUSNESS WHILE HIS EVER-FAITHFUL BANDITOS CIRCLED SILENTLY, REVERENTLY GAPING AT HIS STILLED FORM.
MUY BIEN! HE'S CURED!


THE BANDITS, HYPNOTIZED BY THE SIGHT OF BLOOD, WOULD HAVE STOOD STARING AT THEIR LEADER'S TOOTHLESS AND BLEEDING MOUTH TO THIS DAY HAD NOT JEDEDIAH PAN BROKEN THE SILENCE WITH TWO WHISPERED WORDS...
WHO'S NEXT?
THE BANDITS DISAPPEARED INTO THE NIGHT'S INKY BLACKNESS, GALLOPING AS IF THE HOUNDS OF HELL WERE ON THEIR TALE... WHICH, INDEED, THEY WERE!


NAUGHT WAS LEFT OF THE BANDITS BUT SOUNDS. BURSTING OUT OF THE OMINOUS DESERT BLACKNESS, THERE WERE THE SOUNDS OF SHRILL SCREAMS...THE SOUNDS OF ICY TERROR...PAIN...AGONY. THERE WAS THE SOUND OF HYSTERICAL PLEADING... OF CURSES IN BROKEN ENGLISH...AND FINALLY...A SOUND THAT COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN MADE BY FIVE TOOTHLESS MEN GARGLING ON BLOOD!

JEDEDIAH PAN HELPED A SOMEWHAT SHAKEN DR. PERRY BOTTLES FIND HIS CLOTHING...HIS HORSELESS WAGON...AND WHAT WAS LEFT OF HIS MEDICINAL MOONSHINE...

NEITHER MAN SPOKE A WORD TO THE OTHER. THERE WAS SIMPLY NO NEED.
THEY PARTED COMPANY BEFORE FRITO OR HIS MEN REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS. NEITHER WANTED TO BE AROUND TO SEE HOW THE BANDITS ACCEPTED THE "CURE" FOR THEIR "DREAD" DISEASE.

JEDEDIAH PAN NEVER SAW FRITO, YAFATA, PASQUAL OR ANY OF THE OTHER BANDITS AGAIN.

DR. PERRY BOTTLES WAS NOT AS FORTUNATE.

ALMOST SIX MONTHS LATER, HE WAS RETURNING HOME TO REPLENISH HIS EXHAUSTED PHARMACEUTICAL INVENTORY WHEN SIX HARD-RIDING MEXICANS HAILED HIM TO A HALT.

PERMIT ME, SIRS... THE NAME IS DR. PERRY BOTTLES...!

WE KNOW, THENOR!

F-FRITO.?

THEENOR DOCTOR... I HAD GIVEN UP HOPE OF EVER THEEING YOU AGAIN! HA! HA!

WE NEVER DID THANK YOU OR YOUR AMIGO FOR CURING OUR AILMENTHS!

ATH YOU CAN THEE, NONE OF US HATH HAD A TOOTHACHE IN ALL THAT TIME!

OF COURTH, WE HAVE NOT EATEN A JUITHY THTEAK ALL THAT TIME EITHER!

CONCHITA IS AWFULLY TIRED OF COOKING OATMEAL AT EVERY MEAL.

MY GOOD FELLOW...YOU SHOULD HAVE CONSULTED ME EARLIER!

I JUST HAPPEN TO HAVE HERE SIX PAIRS OF THE FINEST WOODEN TEETH EVER MADE!

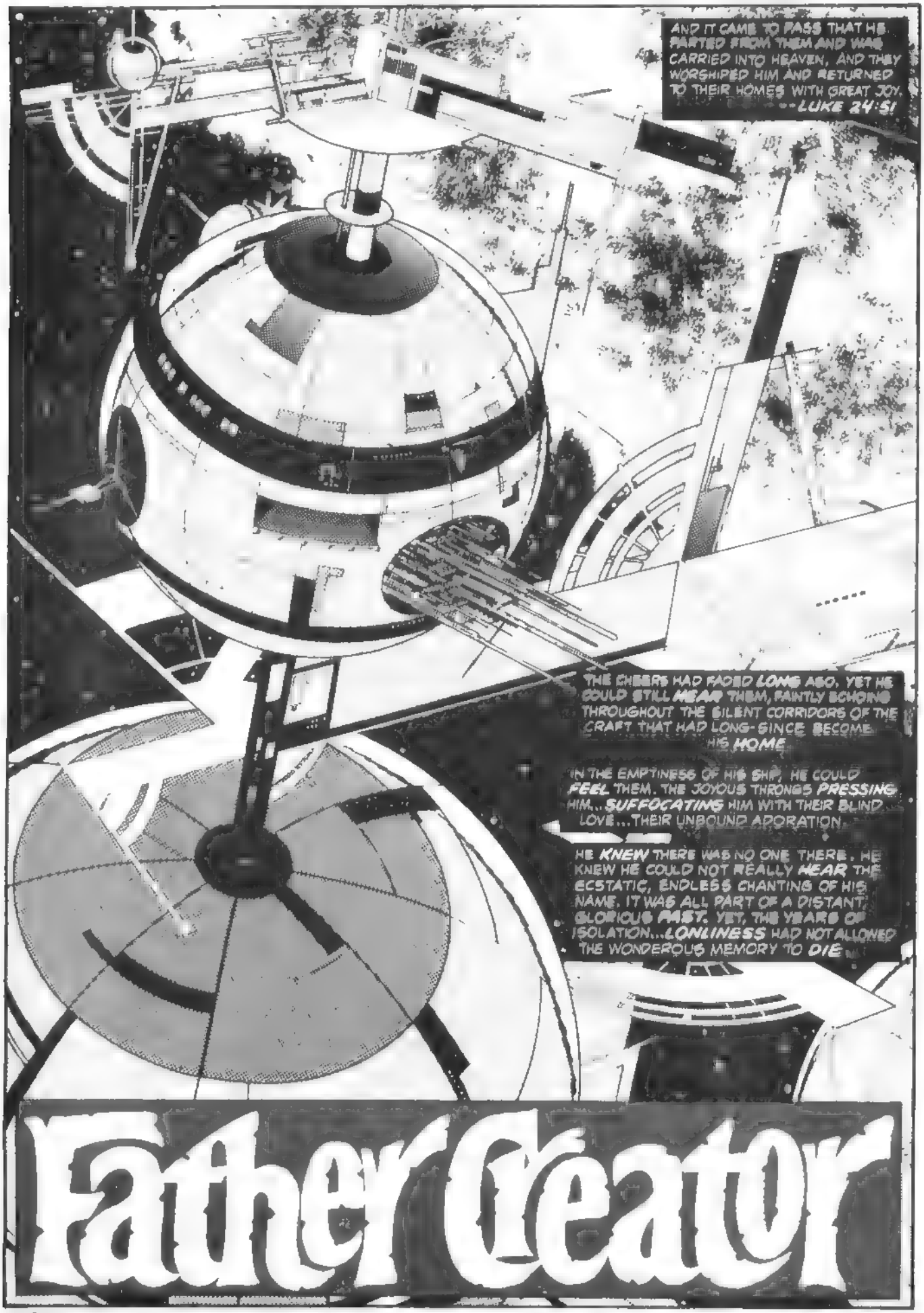
SENOR! THEY FIT PERFECTLY! CONCHITA WILL BE SO PLEASED SHE MAY NOT EVEN BREAK MY LEGS AGAIN FOR NOT FINDING HER CORSET.

SENOR DOCTOR... WE ARE IN YOUR DEBT!

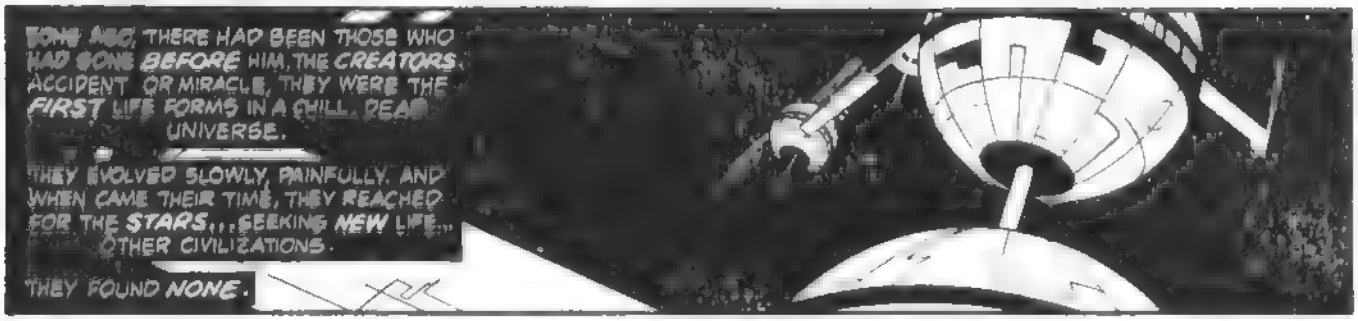
NO NEED TO BE, SIR... THAT'LL BE SIX DOLLARS EVEN.

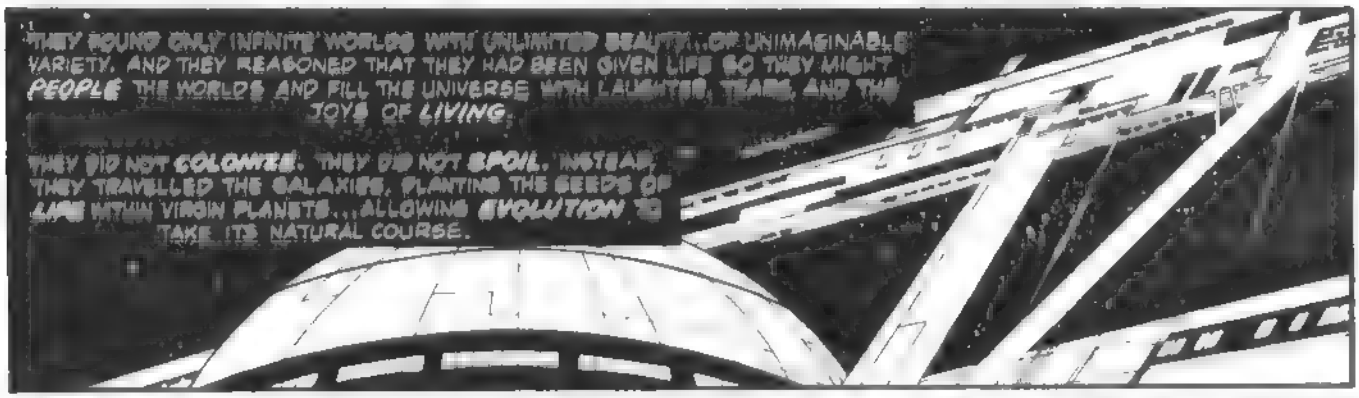
HA! HA! SENOR DOCTOR NEVER LEARNS!

SEND US YOUR BILL, AMIGO!

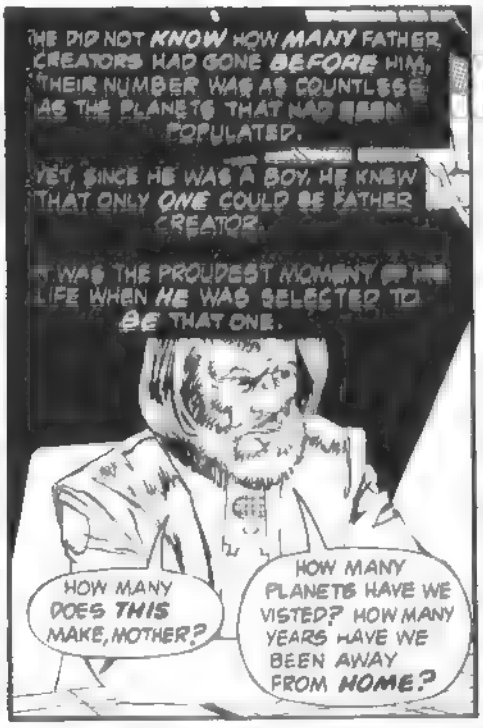


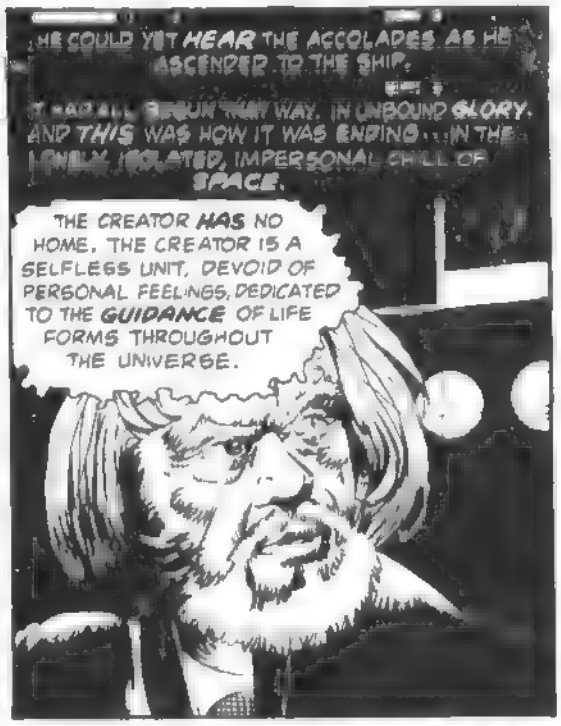
STORY: BILL DuBAY / ART: PAUL NEARY


LONG AGO, THERE HAD BEEN THOSE WHO HAD GONE BEFORE HIM, THE CREATORS. ACCIDENT OR MIRACLE, THEY WERE THE FIRST LIFE FORMS IN A CHILL, DEAD UNIVERSE.
THEY EVOLVED SLOWLY, PAINFULLY, AND WHEN CAME THEIR TIME, THEY REACHED FOR THE STARS...SEEKING NEW LIFE... OTHER CIVILIZATIONS.
THEY FOUND NONE.


THEY FOUND ONLY INFINITE WORLDS WITH UNLIMITED BEAUTY...OF UNIMAGINABLE VARIETY. AND THEY REASONED THAT THEY HAD BEEN GIVEN LIFE SO THEY MIGHT PEOPLE THE WORLDS AND FILL THE UNIVERSE WITH LAUGHTER, TEARS, AND THE JOYS OF LIVING.
THEY DID NOT COLONIZE. THEY DID NOT SPOIL. INSTEAD, THEY TRAVELLED THE GALAXIES, PLANTING THE SEEDS OF LIFE WITHIN VIRGIN PLANETS...ALLOWING EVOLUTION TO TAKE ITS NATURAL COURSE.

AND WHEN THE BILLIONS OF SEED HAD SPROUTED AND THE TRILLIONS OF LIFE-FORMS BEGAN TO GROW, THE CREATORS CHOSE ONE AMONGST THEMSELVES TO WATCH OVER AND GUIDE THEIR CHILDREN.
AND THEY CALLED HIM FATHER CREATOR.


HE DID NOT KNOW HOW MANY FATHER CREATORS HAD GONE BEFORE HIM, THEIR NUMBER WAS AS COUNTLESS AS THE PLANETS THAT HAD BEEN POPULATED.
YET, SINCE HE WAS A BOY, HE KNEW THAT ONLY ONE COULD BE FATHER CREATOR.
IT WAS THE PROUDEST MOMENT OF HIS LIFE WHEN HE WAS SELECTED TO BE THAT ONE.
HOW MANY DOES THIS MAKE, MOTHER?
HOW MANY PLANETS HAVE WE VISTED? HOW MANY YEARS HAVE WE BEEN AWAY FROM HOME?


HE COULD YET HEAR THE ACCOLADES AS HE ASCENDED TO THE SHIP.
IT HAD ALL BEGUN THAT WAY, IN UNBOUND GLORY. AND THIS WAS HOW IT WAS ENDING...IN THE LONELY, ISOLATED, IMPERSONAL CHILL OF SPACE.
THE CREATOR HAS NO HOME. THE CREATOR IS A SELFLESS UNIT, DEVOID OF PERSONAL FEELINGS, DEDICATED TO THE GUIDANCE OF LIFE FORMS THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE.

WRONG, MOTHER. FATHER CREATOR IS A TIRED OLD MAN, FILLED WITH DREAMS OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.
I OFTEN THINK HOW BEAUTIFUL IT WOULD HAVE BEEN TO HAVE LIVED AS A MAN.
YOU WOULD NOT BE A HAPPY MAN HAVING LIVED AS A GOD, FATHER.
YOU HAVE SUFFERED FAR TOO MUCH...EXPERIENCED TOO MANY OF THE ULTIMATE JOYS.
YOUR LOGIC IS INESCAPABLE, MOTHER. BUT THEN THAT'S WHY YOU WERE BUILT INTO THIS SHIP... TO BE PERFECT COMPANION AS WELL AS THE ULTIMATE NAVIGATOR.

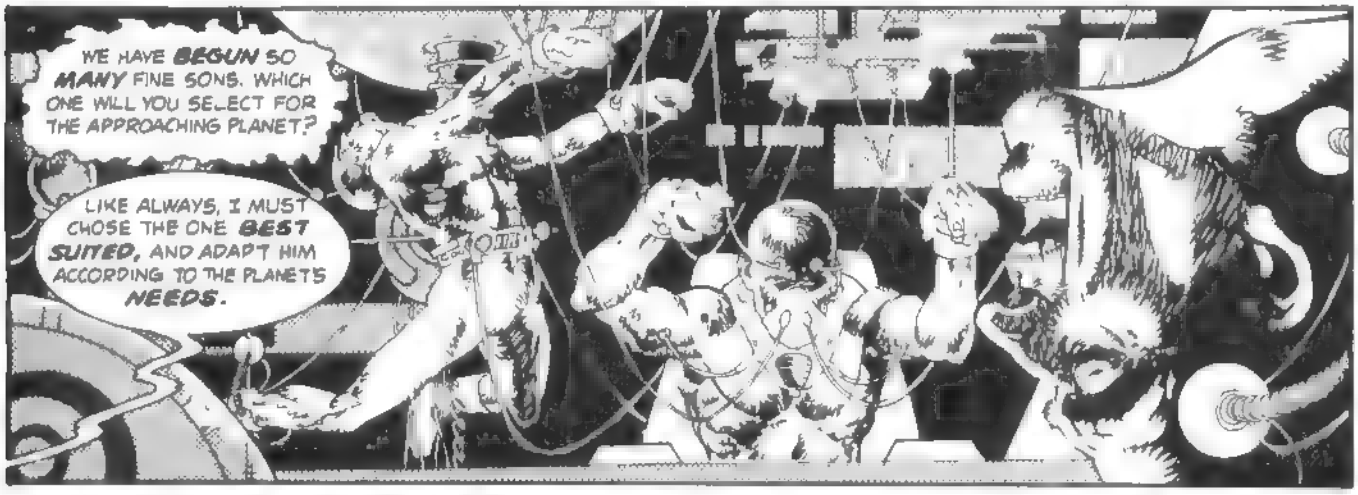
YET IT IS THE NATURE OF MAN TO DREAM OF WHAT IS NOT. AND MAN OR GOD THAT NATURE CANNOT BE ALTERED.
IT MAKES ONE WONDER IF THE ORIGINAL CREATORS BESTOWED A BLESSING OR A CURSE UPON THE CHILDREN INTO WHOM THEY BREATHED LIFE.

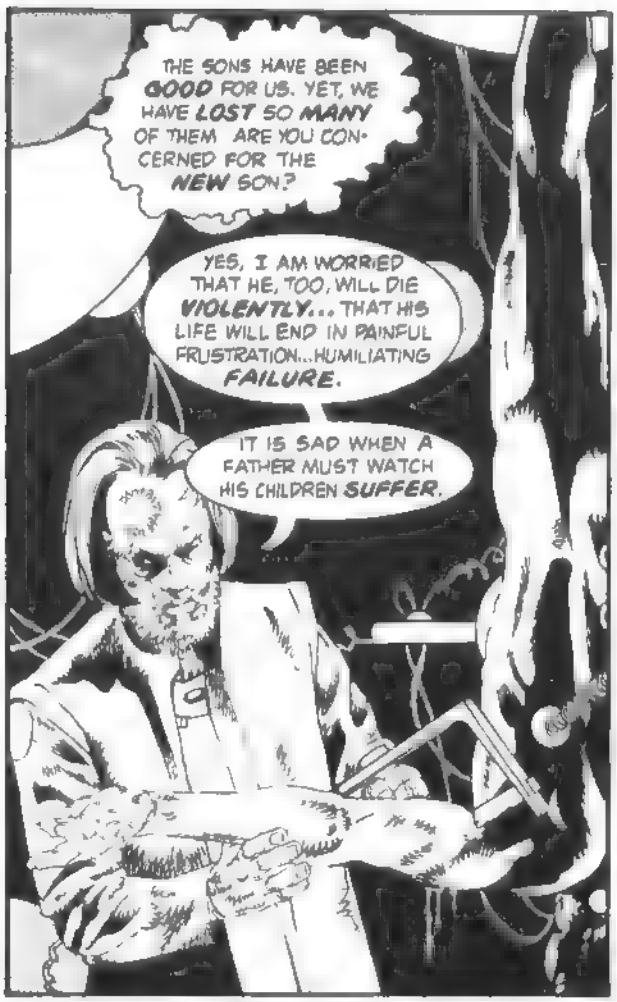
YOU REALIZE, FATHER, WE HAVE HAD THIS DISCUSSION BEFORE.
I AM AWARE, MOTHER.
THERE IS LITTLE WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED IN OUR TIME TOGETHER.

INDEED. IT SEEMS I KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS BEFORE YOU VOICE THEM.
AND I YOURS. YET, IF THERE WERE NO SPOKEN WORDS BETWEEN US, I FEAR I WOULD BE MORE INSANE THAN I AM.

THE SONS MUST OFFER YOU SOME INTELLECTUAL STIMULATION.
THE SONS ARE A PLEASANT DIVERSION. YET THEY ARE WITH US FOR SUCH A SHORT TIME BEFORE THEY MUST FULFILL THE OWN DESTINIES.

IT IS ALMOST TIME FOR A NEW SON TO BE BIRTHED, FATHER.
I KNOW, MOTHER I I KNOW.


WE HAVE BEGUN SO MANY FINE SONS. WHICH ONE WILL YOU SELECT FOR THE APPROACHING PLANET?
LIKE ALWAYS, I MUST CHOSE THE ONE BEST SUITED, AND ADAPT HIM ACCORDING TO THE PLANET'S NEEDS.


THE SONS HAVE BEEN GOOD FOR US. YET, WE HAVE LOST SO MANY OF THEM ARE YOU CONCERNED FOR THE NEW SON?
YES, I AM WORRIED THAT HE, TOO, WILL DIE VIOLENTLY... THAT HIS LIFE WILL END IN PAINFUL FRUSTRATION...HUMILIATING FAILURE.
IT IS SAD WHEN A FATHER MUST WATCH HIS CHILDREN SUFFER.

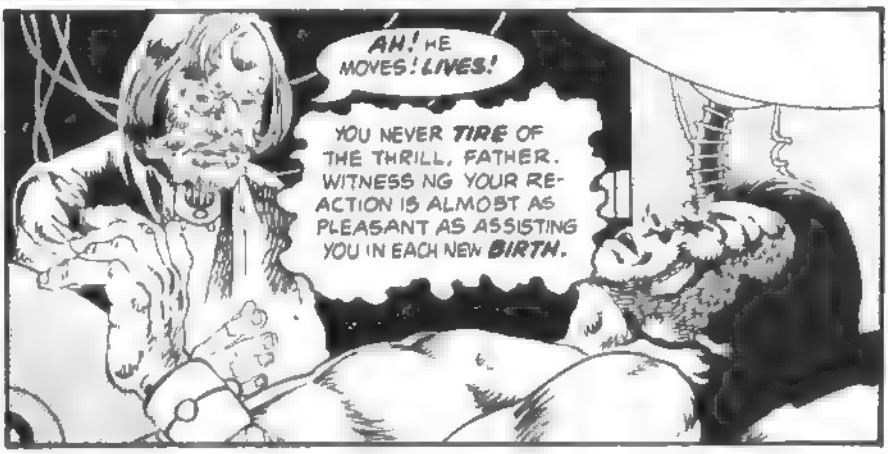
YOU DO ENJOY BESTOWING LIFE?
CERTAINLY

WE CREATE SONS FROM NOTHING, AND MOLD THEM INTO THE MAGE OF THE ORIGINAL CREATORS.

IT IS ALWAYS BEAUTIFUL WHEN THEY BREATHE...LIVE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

AND FOR THAT REASON ALONE, IT IS ALL THE MORE SAD WHEN THEY ARE NOT ACCEPTED BY THOSE WHO NEED THEM SO MUCH.
IT IS THOSE WHO NEED THEM THE MOST, MOTHER, WHO REALIZE IT THE LEAST.
AH, HE IS A FINE SON!

YOURS IS A FATHERLY LOVE ALREADY...AND THE SON HAS YET TO TAKE HIS FIRST BREATH.
THEN LET GIVE HIM LIFE, MY DEAR.


AH! HE MOVES! LIVES!
YOU NEVER TIRE OF THE THRILL, FATHER. WITNESS NG YOUR REACTION IS ALMOST AS PLEASANT AS ASSISTING YOU IN EACH NEW BIRTH.

BEHOLD! THE SON!
I...I LIVE!

YOU LIVE FOR A GLOR OUS PURPOSE.
YOU WILL BE THE SAVIOR OF A TROUBLED PLANET.
YOU WILL TEACH MEN HOW TO LOVE...TO LIVE IN SELFLESSNESS...TO BECOME ONE WITH THE UNIVERSE.

M-MY HEAD...S-SO MUCH TO LEARN... TO SEE!
EVEN NOW, YOUR EDUCATION IS IN PROGRESS. MOTHER COMPUTER IS MENTALLY PROGRAMMING YOU
FROM HER, YOU WILL LEARN ALL KNOWLEDGE.
WHILE I HAVE GIVEN YOU THE SPECIAL TALENTS YOU WILL NEED TO SURVIVE AS A MESSIAH.

YOURS IS THE ABILITY TO HEAL THE AFFLICTED..TO PERFORM MIRACLES OF SCIENCE ..AND TO ACT AS PROPHET, MESSIAH AND KING.
YET, THE WAY WILL NOT BE EASY, MY SON.
THERE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE YOU...WALKED AMONGST THE PEOPLES OF OTHER WORLDS...AND FAILED. THEY HAVE PAID IN BLOOD FOR THEIR FAILURE.

YOUR SUCCESS OR FAILURE IS NOT WITHIN YOUR OWN HANDS. YOUR FATE RESTS WITH THE CHILDREN WHO EITHER ACCEPT OR REJECT YOU.
IT IS UP TO THE CHILDREN TO KEEP THAT LIGHT SHINING BRIGHTLY.
ALL YOU CAN DO, SON, IS LIGHT THE DARKNESS WITH YOUR PRESENCE.

BUT REMEMBER THIS, MY SON...EVEN IN FAILURE, YOU WILL HAVE A PROFOUND IMPACT UPON YOUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE.
PREPARE NOW, FOR SOON YOU MUST LEAVE.

YOU ARE TROUBLED, FATHER. ARE YOU CONCERNED OVER THE SON'S DEPARTURE?

YES! I...I DO NOT THINK I COULD BEAR LOSING ANOTHER ONE!

I... I LOVE HIM. I-IF ONLY I COULD GO WITH HIM...PREVENT THE CHILDREN FROM DESTROYING HIM!

IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR THE CREATOR TO INTERFERE!

I WILL NOT FAIL YOU, MY FATHER.

I WILL TELL THE CHILDREN OF YOU...OF YOUR GREAT LOVE...!

SON! I...I HADN'T KNOWN YOU WERE LISTENING...! I .I--!

I ..DON'T WANT YOU TO GO OUT THERE, BOY! I-IT'S NOT SAFE! THEY'LL KILL YOU, SON!

STAY WITH ME! STAY WITH YOUR FATHER WHERE IT'S SAFE!

I-IT'S LONELY HERE, BOY! I...I NEED YOU MORE THAN THOSE HEATHENS DOWN THERE!

FATHER! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!

IT'S SO HARD, BOY! THE CROWDS...THE CHEERS. ALWAYS I HEAR THEM. I CAN FEEL THE MASSES BREATHING ON ME...RELYING ON ME TO SAVE...TO GUIDE THE HEATHEN CHILDREN!

YET...WHEN I TURN TO THEM...WHEN I NEED THEM...THE CROWDS ARE GONE...AND I'M SO ALONE!

FATHER! LET ME HELP YOU! I...I UNDERSTAND NOW!

ALL OF THE YEARS...THE SOLITUDE...THE PRESSURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES... THEY'VE BEEN TOO MUCH FOR YOU!

Y-YOU'RE FEELING THE STRAIN!

STRAIN?

I AM FATHER CREATOR, BOY! FOR ME THERE IS NO STRAIN!

FATHER! PLEASE! I CAN HELP YOU YOU'VE GIVEN ME THE POWER TO HEAL!
I CAN MAKE YOU WELL AGAIN!
AND WHO SAID I WAS SICK, BOY?
MOTHER! TELL THIS CHILD--!

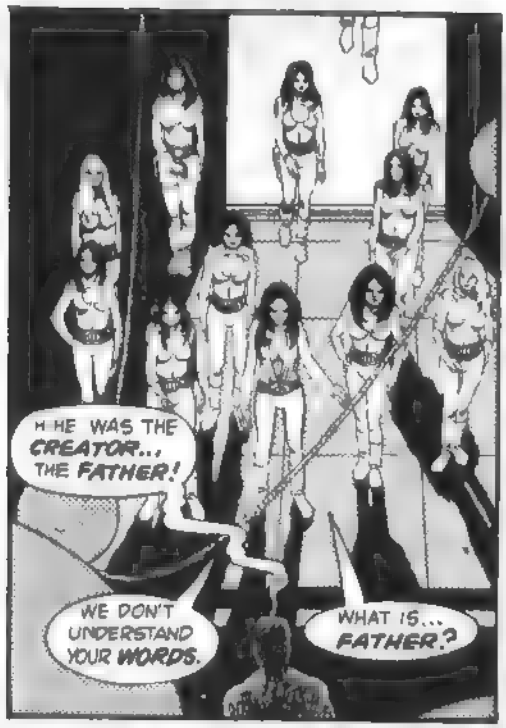
MOTHER CANNOT ANSWER! THERE IS NO MOTHER COMPUTER.
THERE NEVER WAS A COMPANION COMPUTER, FATHER!
B-BUT THERE MUST BE! I...I HAVE SPOKEN WITH HER...! SHE HELPED ME CREATE YOU!

ALL THAT I AM, ALL THAT I KNOW, YOU HAVE GIVEN ME. YOU ALONE ARE THE CREATOR!
YOUR MIND INVENTED MOTHER ...TRICKED YOU INTO THINKING SHE WAS REAL.
NO! IF THE MOTHER DOES NOT EXIST, T-THEN ...I ..I--!

YES FATHER! YOU ARE SICK! SICK OF LONLINESS. EVEN A GOD CAN BE LONELY.
ESPECIALLY A GOD!
NO! THIS HAS NEVER HAPPENED TO A CREATOR. I-IT CANNOT HAPPEN!
I...I MUST DESTROY THE SICKNESS! WITHIN MY HANDS, I HAVE THE POWER...!

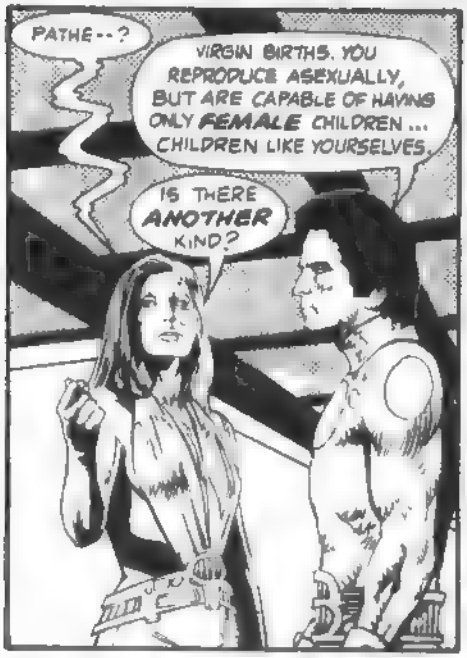
NO, FATHER! YOU CAN BE HELPED! I CAN CURE YOU... SAVE YOU!
I...I NEED ONLY BURN OUT THE SICKNESS... D-DESTROY T-THE EVIL...!
SSSSSSST!
AAAGGGGH!

WE ARE TOO LATE TO HELP?
YOU? W-WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
WE ARE FROM THE PLANET BELOW. WE OBSERVED YOUR CRAFT AND FELT YOU MIGHT BE IN DISTRESS.
BUT WE ARE TOO LATE!


HE WAS THE CREATOR... THE FATHER!
WE DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR WORDS.
WHAT IS... FATHER?

THE FATHER LOVED YOU SO MUCH THAT HE GAVE YOU HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON.
SON? YOU SPEAK IN STRANGE SYMBOLS!

OUR PEOPLE HAVE NEVER KNOWN ONE SUCH AS YOU.
WITH YOUR FATHER GONE, WILL YOU COME JOIN US?
YOU ARE A RACE OF FEMININE HUMANOIDS? PARTHENOGENIC, NO DOUBT.

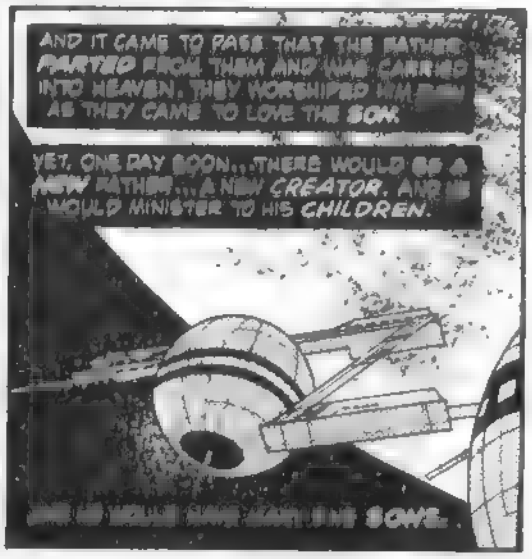

PATHE--?
VIRGIN BIRTHS. YOU REPRODUCE ASEXUALLY, BUT ARE CAPABLE OF HAVING ONLY FEMALE CHILDREN... CHILDREN LIKE YOURSELVES.
IS THERE ANOTHER KIND?

I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT. BETTER STILL... I'LL SHOW YOU. SUFFICE IT TO SAY, FATHER KNEW WHAT HE WAS DOING WHEN HE CREATED A MESSIAH FOR YOU.
IF ANYONE EVER NEEDED TO BE SAVED--!

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH YOUR CRAFT? IT IS A FINE STAR SHIP... MUCH MORE ADVANCED THAN OUR OWN.
WITH FATHER CREATOR GONE, THE SHIP IS PROGRAMMED TO RETURN HOME.

HOME? WHERE IS HOME?
I...I'M NOT SURE. I KNOW ONLY THAT A NEW FATHER WILL INHERIT THE SHIP...AND HIS WILL BE THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE TO OVERSEE.

THAT IS A TREMENDOUS RESPONSIBILITY. WHO WOULD WANT SUCH A JOB?
YES ...WHO INDEED?


AND IT CAME TO PASS THAT THE FATHER PARTED FROM THEM AND WAS CARRIED INTO HEAVEN. THEY WORSHIPED HIM EVEN AS THEY CAME TO LOVE THE SON.
YET, ONE DAY SOON... THERE WOULD BE A NEW FATHER... A NEW CREATOR. AND HE WOULD MINISTER TO HIS CHILDREN.

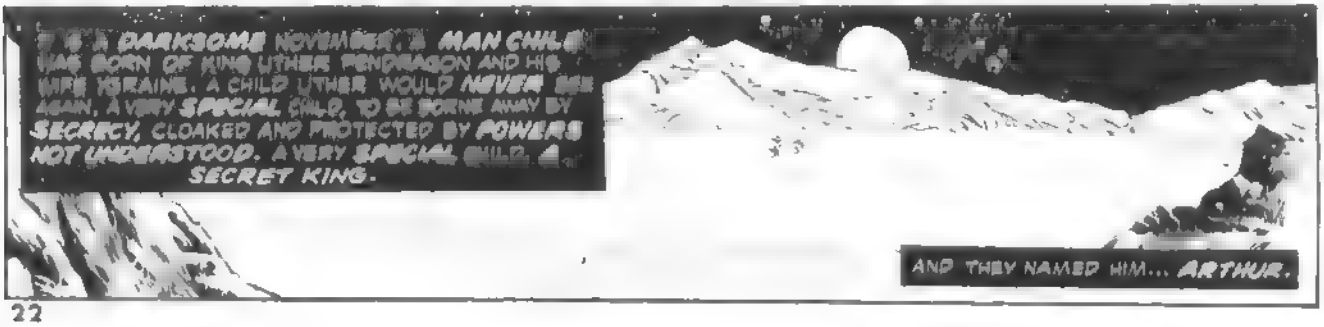
STORY: BUDD LEWIS / ART: GONZALO MAYO

WHAT NAME WAS ARRANGED FOR THE INFANT CHILD?
BEST YOU ASK HIS FATHER.

MY LORD UTHER WHAT WILL THEY CALL THE CHILD?

ARTHUR.

A Secret KING
IT IS 471 A.D. ROME RULES AN ANCIENT ENGLAND. AND THERE IS DARKNESS OVER THE LAND. THOUGH BUT A FEW NOW KNOW IT. THIS IS THE LAST NIGHT OF DARKNESS. A SINGLE, FRAGILE LIGHT WAS CREATED. AND IF NURTURED CAREFULLY, ONE DAY, IT WILL ILLUMINATE THE EARTH FOR FIFTEEN HUNDRED YEARS TO COME.


IT IS A DARKSOME NOVEMBER. A MAN CHILD WAS BORN OF KING UTHER PENDRAGON AND HIS WIFE YGRAINE. A CHILD UTHER WOULD NEVER SEE AGAIN. A VERY SPECIAL CHILD, TO BE BORNE AWAY BY SECRECY, CLOAKED AND PROTECTED BY POWERS NOT UNDERSTOOD. A VERY SPECIAL CHILD. A SECRET KING.
AND THEY NAMED HIM... ARTHUR.

A DUCK! MEAT IN THE POT!
QUONK QUONK

BLAST IT! A FALCON HUNTING THE SAME DUCK!
WE'LL SEE WHICH IS THE FASTER, THE FALCON OR MY ARROW!

SCREEEE!
OH NO! YOU GOT IN MY WAY, YOU STUPID FALCON!

QUONK QUONK

YOU SPOIL SPORT! DON'T ATTACK ME! I DIDN'T MEAN TO SHOOT YOU!

CHANGED YOUR MIND, EH?

WELL, SEE HERE, MASTER PEREGRIN FALCON, I'M SORRY... IT WAS AN ACCIDENT.
I'D BE GLAD TO DOCTOR YOUR SORE LEG, Y'KNOW

WHO THE GOD DAMNED DEVIL SHOT THAT FALCON? SNIVEL! I MIGHT WELL GUESS IT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN SHOOTING HUNTING BIRDS?
MERLIN!

MASTER, I AM SO SORRY. I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE HUNTING YOUR FALCONS TODAY.
YOU SEE... I SPIED A FAT, YOUNG DUCK... BUT THE FALCON WAS SPYING IT TOO. MY ARROW AND THE FALCON REACHED THE DUCK AT THE SAME TIME AND...
ENOUGH! DAMNIT ALL GIRL! YOU HAVE YOUR OWN WAY OF FOULING UP MY LESSONS.
LESSONS?

YES, LESSONS! AND THANK GOD YOU ARE A POOR MARKSMAN!
MARKSWOMAN!

SCHOOL IS OUT! COME DOWN...

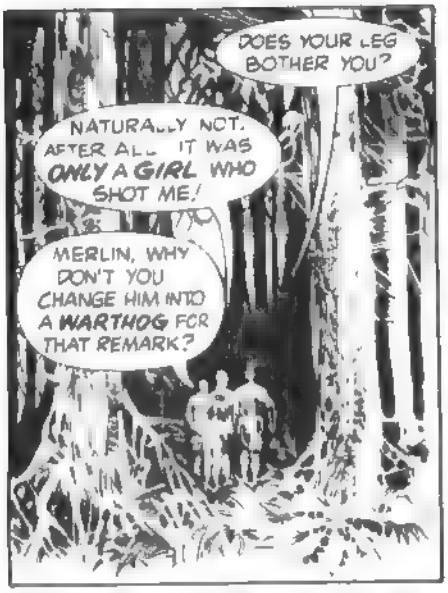
...ARTHUR.
IT WAS MY FAULT, MERLIN. I SAW SNIVEL ABOUT TO KILL THE DUCK, BUT I THOUGHT I COULD GET TO IT FIRST. I COULDN'T.

ARTHUR! MERLIN'S BEEN CHANGING YOU INTO ANIMALS AGAIN, HAS HE?
OF COURSE, LOVE HOW ELSE AM I TO DISCOVER THE WAYS OF GOD'S WORLD?
MERLIN, I REALLY LIKED BEING A HUNTING BIRD!

YANK IT, SNIV. DOESN'T HURT.
THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME MERLIN LET ME BE SOMETHING MEAN. I WAS GETTING TIRED OF SEEING HOW DULL THINGS LIKE BUGS, FISH AND TURTLES LIVE.

WHAT DID YOU LEARN AS A BEAST OF PREY, ARTHUR?
I DON'T REALLY KNOW, SIR. EXCEPT... I LIKED THE POWER I HAD...THE POWER OF BEING ABLE TO KILL WEAKER ANIMALS.
BUT WELL ONCE YOU HAVE POWER LIKE THAT, ONE CAN AFFORD NOT TO USE IT. EXCEPT PERHAPS TO HELP THE WEAKER ANIMALS.

THEN YOU HAVE LEARNED A VITAL LESSON. MIGHT DOES NOT MAKE RIGHT. JUST BECAUSE A MAN IS STRONG AND POWERFUL, HE IS ABLE TO DIRECT HIS POWER TOWARD THE PLACES WHERE IT CAN DO THE MOST GOOD, RATHER THAN USING IT DESTRUCTIVELY.
SHALL WE "LIMP" HOME, ART?


DOES YOUR LEG BOTHER YOU?
NATURALLY NOT. AFTER ALL IT WAS ONLY A GIRL WHO SHOT ME!
MERLIN, WHY DON'T YOU CHANGE HIM INTO A WARTHOG FOR THAT REMARK?

AW, SNIV.
WAIT! LISTEN! WHAT IS THAT NOISE? IT'S COMING FROM THE HOUSE UP AHEAD.
MY GOD! SOMEONE IS IN OUR HOME! COME ALONG, THEN!

WHO COULD IT BE, SIR?
I WANT NOT TO THINK OF WHO IT MIGHT BE!
IF IT'S...NO, NOT YET! NOT YET! SURELY!

BLACK RIDER!! HIE YOU! GET AWAY FROM MERLIN'S HOUSE! STOP YOU THIEVES!!

STOP YOU!
NO BOY! DO NOT RILE THEM! THEY ARE EVIL AS BILE! LET THEM GO!

OH BY GOD'S KNUCKLES! IT HAS BEGUN.
OH MERLIN, LOOK AT WHAT THE ROTTERS DID! OH!

DAMN THEM! I KNEW SOMETHING WOULD HAPPEN, BUT I HAD NOT LOOKED FOR IT THIS YEAR. DARK THINGS ARE AFOOT!
THE STORE-ROOM! BY GOD, IF THEY...

THE LOCK IS TORN OPEN! THEY FOUND IT!

DAMN ME!! THEY STOLE IT! THEY STOLE THE DAMNED THING!! THRICE HELL'S CURSES!
OH, MERLIN ...NO.
WHAT DID THEY STEAL?

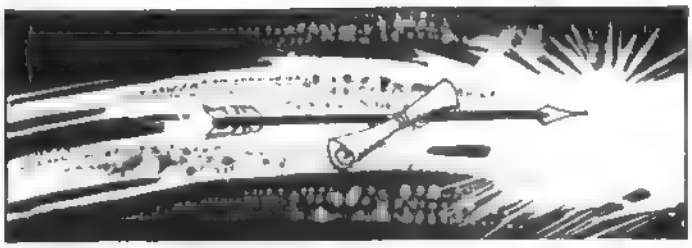
GET YOUR KNIVES ON, GIRL. I'VE ALREADY MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH SIR ECTOR. GET THIS BOY TO ECTOR'S CASTLE STRAIGHTAWAY.
SADDLE UP AND MAKE HASTE. STOP NOT UNTIL YOU'RE SAFE WITHIN HIS WALLS.
YESSIRE.

ECTOR WILL BE EXPECTING YOU AND ARTHUR. GET THIS MESSAGE TO HIM OVER THE WALL FIRST. IT WILL ALERT HIM THAT TROUBLE HAS COME ALREADY. HE KNOWS WHAT TO DO.
I WISH I KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON HERE.

WHY MUST WE LEAVE OUR HOME, MERLIN?
OUR HOME IS NO LONGER SAFE, BOY. YOU WILL LIVE WITH SIR ECTOR IN HIS CASTLE.
STAY THERE AND TAKE GOOD KEEP OF OUR SNIVEL. YOU MUST BE THE MAN UNTIL I RETURN. BE BRAVE, SON. I LOVE YOU BEYOND EVER THIS EARTH. NOW GO!

GODSPEED, MY LOVES! I SHALL RETURN WITH THE STOLEN TREASURE OR NOT AT ALL!
FAREWELL, GREAT MERLIN!
HURRY BACK SOON, SIRE!

LIGHT THE ARROW FOR ME.
SNIV...WHAT DID THOSE BLACK RIDERS STEAL FROM MERLIN?



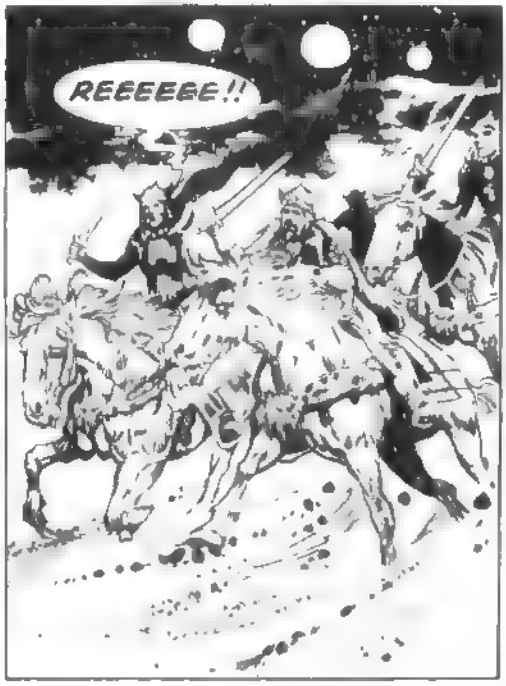
A NOTE HERE UPON THIS MESSAGE ARROW! IT IS FROM MERLIN THE MAGICIAN! QUICK, LADS! RUN TELL SIR ECTOR DANGER IS NEAR! AND OPEN THE GATES! MERLIN'S YOUNG WARD IS AWAITING SANCTUARY! HURRY!

ARTHUR! RUN TO THE CASTLE! ROMAN SOLDIERS COME!
HALT!

WHAT HAVE WE HERE! BRIGANDS? HIGHWAYMEN? HAYAHYAH! OR TWO RUN-AWAY WAIFS?! MORE LIKELY! TRASH AT ANY RATE!
BACK OFF, PIG!
HERE! LET'S KILL THIS BRAT AND DIVIDE THE WENCH BETWEEN US!

WHY! YOU SUCKLING BITCH-CUR! I'LL KILL Y...UUGNNN!
RUN, ARTHUR! TO THE CASTLE!!

I CAN'T GRAB HER! THE DEMON!
BLACK RIDERS!!


REEEEEE!!

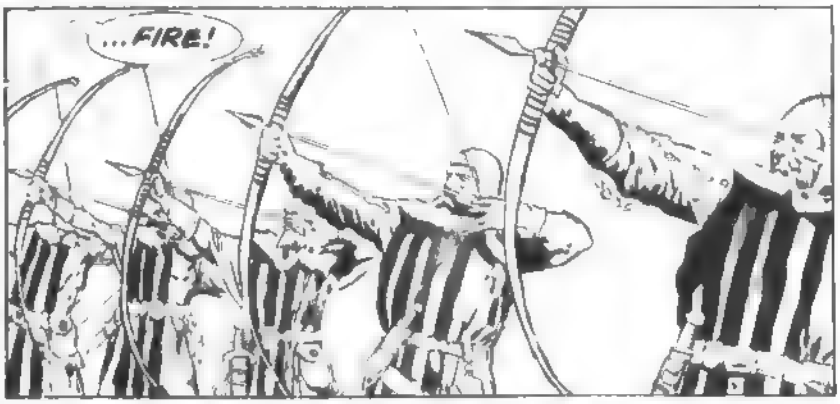
WHAT MANNER OF FOE IS THIS?
DEMON RIDERS! KILL THEM!!
ARTHUR! GET YOUR HORSE, THESE RIDERS ARE AFTER YOU, NOT THE ROMANS! TO THE CASTLE!
THE BOY! TAKE THE BOY! REEEEE!

SNIV! COME WITH ME! HURRY!
NO! GO ON WITHOUT ME! I'LL HOLD THEM AWAY FROM YOU! GO, BOY, HURRYYY!
THE BOY! GET THE BOY!!

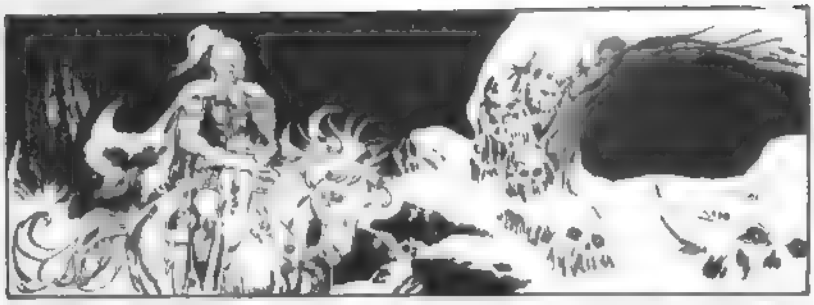
STAY WITHIN THE CASTLE UNTIL MERLIN COMES FOR YOU! RIDE, BOY! DON'T STOP OR LOOK...

...BACK!! NNUUUUH!

LET THE BOY GET PAST! AIM FOR THE HOODED RIDERS BEHIND HIM! AND READY... AND...


...FIRE!

CHOK
CHOK
REEEE!
NEEEHH!



GRIM GRUE! ART THOU HOME?

WELCOME TO MY CHAMBERINGS, O'MERLINUS!
WHAT CHANCE THY FEIGNED RIGHTEOUS FEET THIS WAY COME?
YOU KNOW WHY I COME, GRIM GRUE!

CALL OFF YOUR DOGS!
DOGS? I HAVE NO DOGS, MAYBE A FELINE FAMILIAR, BUT NO D--
LISTEN TO ME, YOU DRUID DEVIL! THOSE BLACK RIDERS RUINED MY HOUSE, STOLE MY STONE, AND FRIGHTENED MY CHILDREN. CALL THEM OFF! AND RETURN MY STONE! NOW!
HAS SOMEONE RUINED MERLIN'S POWERPLAY?

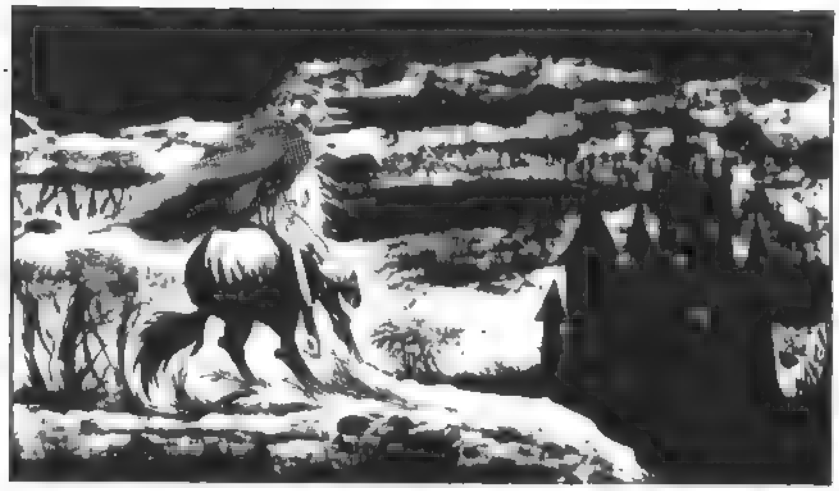
YOU AND EVERY OTHER WIZARD KNOW I SEEK NOT PERSONAL POWER.
BY THWARTING ME, YOU THWART THE DESTINY OF HISTORY FUTURE!

WHATEVER YOUR INTENTIONS OF GRANDEUR, MERLIN, I HATE IT. BUT I HAVE NO RIDERS AND KNOW NOT OF YOUR PRECIOUS STONE!

YOU ARE DESPISED BY YOUR PEERS IN MAGIC, FOR YOU ARE GREEDY AND ASPIRE TO IMMORTALITY.
I ONLY WISH I DID TAKE YOUR STONE! HE THAT DID, IS MY HERO!

I WILL FIND YOUR HERO AND MY STONE ...AND WILL DELIVER YOUR ADMIRATIONS ...THUS!
EYYARR!

IT IS THE LEAGUE OF MAGICIANS THAT HAS DONE THIS.
I CANNOT DESTROY THEM ...BUT THEIR RIDERS... CAN!



QUICKLY, GUARD, WHERE IS KING UTHER?
TH... THE KING REPOSES WITHIN HIS CHAMBERS, BUT...

IS UTHER ASLEEP, NURSE?
MY LORD...KING UTHER LIES AT THE GATES OF DEATH. A GRAVE ILLNESS HAS LONG HELD HIM IN SWAY.
BE GENTLE IF YOU SPEAK TO HIM... HE HAS... NOT LONG. THANK GOD, YOU'VE COME... HE LONGS FOR YOU AND... HIS SON.

MY LORD UTHER WHY DID YOU NOT SEND FOR ME?
THESE ARE PERILOUS DAYS. YOU HAVE TROUBLES ENOUGH, DEAR FRIEND. HOW...HOW IS MY SON?

UTHER, THE MAGICIAN'S COUNCIL, WHICH HATES ME BECAUSE I CONDEMN THEIR EVIL, HAS UNLEASHED BLACK RIDERS ON ME. THEY TOOK THE STONE AND... ARTHUR IS IN GRAVE DANGER.
HAVE THEY TAKEN ARTHUR? IS HE SAFE?

MY FAMILIAR, SNIVEL RODE WITH HIM TO THE SAFETY OF ECTOR'S CASTLE. I CAN ONLY HOPE THEY REACHED ECTOR BEFORE THE BLACK ONES OVERTOOK THEM. I WENT TO RECOVER MY STONE.
I... I ONLY CAME HERE TO... TO BRING YOU A... GIFT. I KNEW NOT OF YOUR ILLNESS.

MERLIN...OH, SWEET FRIEND. BRINGING ME THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT... THE SIGHT OF MY SON'S FACE. AHH... MERLIN... I... DIE NOW ..SO HAPPY...SO FEARFUL.
CARE FOR HIM... TELL HIM OF MY LOVE... MAKE THE SIGN FOR ME ...MERL...

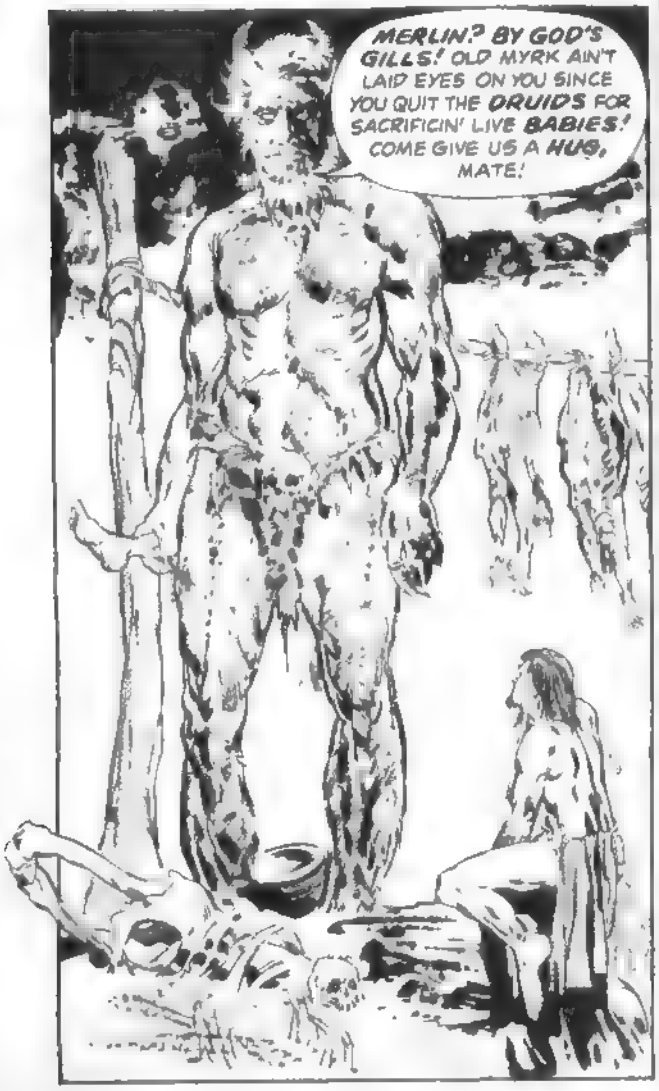
NURSE...PREPARE THE KING'S ROBES. THERE IS... A REGAL... FUNERAL TO PREPARE. THE KING IS DEAD. GOD..OH GOD.
AND WHERE NOW.. IS MY SECRET KING...ARTHUR?

DOWN BY THE CORNISH SEA, THE SORCERER DIVESTS HIS ROBES...

MARRYK MYRK, YOU HAVE VISTORS!
AND A NEW MERLIN WADES INTO THE MURKY WATERS.

I BUT CAN HOPE THY WAT'RY DRAWBRIDGE IS DOWN!

MARRYK MYRK! IT IS MERLIN!


MERLIN? BY GOD'S GILLS! OLD MYRK AIN'T LAID EYES ON YOU SINCE YOU QUIT THE DRUIDS FOR SACRIFICIN' LIVE BABIES! COME GIVE US A HUG, MATE!

WAL, WAL! SO THAT'S WHAT YE BIN DOIN' AWL THESE YEARS! AND ME THUNK YE WUZ DEAD! REARIN' UP YOUNG ENGLISH PRINCES! WAL, WAL! GRAND OL' MERLIN!
JUST ONE YOUNG PRINCE... AND HE'S ENOUGH!

NOT MANY SAILORS IN THESE CORNISH WATERS THESE DAYS YOU'VE EATEN ALL, NEAR ABOUT. I SEE YOUR LARDERS ARE SPARSE OF MEAT.
HOW WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A WHOLE LOAD OF MAN MEAT FOR YOUR HOOKS, AND GET TO BE PERSONAL FRIENDS WITH THE NEW KING OF ALL ENGLONDE?

NOW, SEE HERE, MY YOUNG FELLOW, YOU CAN'T KEEP GOING ON AN EMPTY STOMACH. NOW EAT UP! I PROMISED MERLIN YOU'D BE WELL TAKE CARE OF.
I JUST KEEP THINKING OF POOR SNIVEL, SIR, WHAT ABOUT HER?

OH, DAMMIT ALL, ECTOR! DAMMIT, I SAY!
WHY, KAY! THIS IS NO WAY FOR A SON OF MINE TO ACT! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YE LAD?
IT'S THAT BRAT, FATHER! AND ALL THESE GOINGS ON! ROMANS, BLACK RIDERS AND MAGICIANS ALL SWARMING WITHOUT THE CASTLE! MYSTERY, INTRIGUE! WHY NOW?

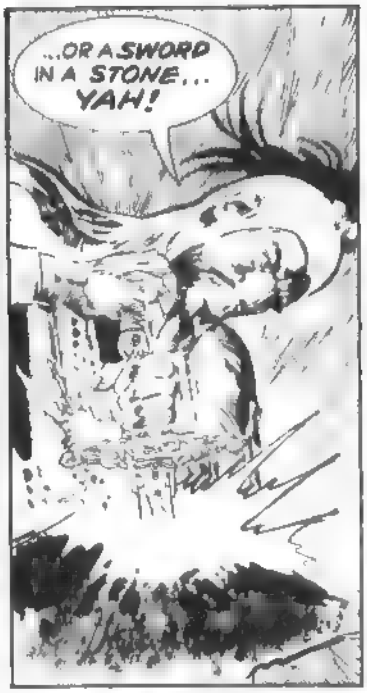
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE A PINCH ON THE EAR, YOU BRAT!
THE GREAT TOURNAMENT IN LONDON IS IN TWO WEEKS AND I PLAN TO WIN ALL THE EVENTS!
HEY! OUCH!
AND I DON'T LIKE ALL THIS DARK HUBBUB OVER THE LIKES OF LITTLE LORD ARTHUR, HERE!

HERE NOW, KAY! HOLD ALL OF THAT! IF OLD MERLIN HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT, ALL THESE DOINGS WILL BE OVER BY TIME FOR THE LONDON TOURNAMENTS.
AND...HEY, YOUNG ARTHUR HERE CAN GO ALONG TOO! BY GOD! AS YOUR SQUIRE! BY GOD, SIR KAY SHALL HAVE A SQUIRE TO ATTEND HIM! WOULD YE LIKE THAT, BOY?
I WANT TO FIND MY POOR SNIVEL!

SIRE? I HAVE TO GO OUT THERE AND BRING HER IN, SHE'S BEEN MY BEST FRIEND, BESIDES MERLIN, ALL MY LIFE. SORTA LIKE MY MOTHER ...IN A WAY, OR...MY BROTHER IN ANOTHER.
SHUHH, MY BOY YOU SAID YERSELF YE SAW A SWORD SPILL HER VITALS OUT. YE CAN'T HELP THE DEAD. BESIDES...THERE BE BOOGERS OUT THERE. LEAVE 'EM ALL BE.

THERE, BY GOD DONE ENOUGH.

IT WOULDN'T FOOL A SCHOOL BOY, ROUGH AND CRUDE. BUT FOR A PIG IN A POLK...


...OR A SWORD IN A STONE... YAH!

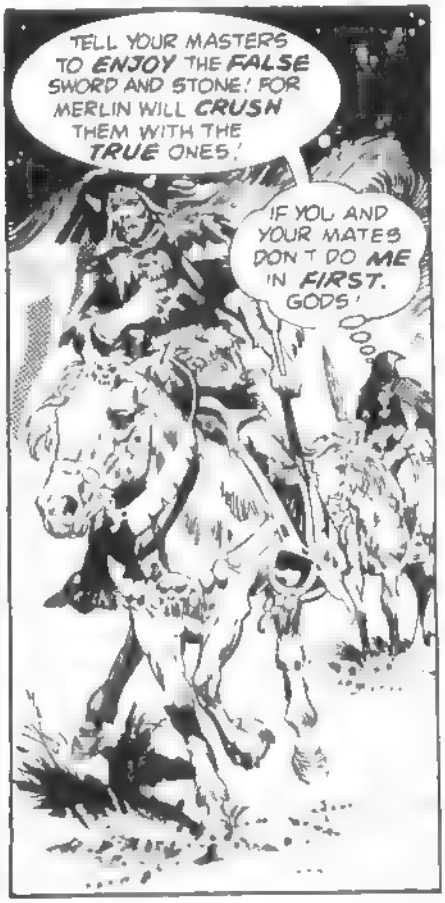
I CAN DAMNABLY SURE FOOL SOME BLACK RIDERS!

HIE! HALT YOU MAN! WHITHER AND WHENCE! I DEMAND!

WHO ARE YOU OLD MAN? AND UPON WHAT BUSINESS?
ME? OH, I AM A SERVANT TO MY LORD, AMBROSIUS MERLINUS.
MERLIN? WHAT S YOUR ERRAND?
I TAKE OLD MERLIN THIS QUEER SWORD RIVEN INTO A STONE.

SEEMS AS SOMEONE STOLE A DECOY SWORD AND STONE FROM MERLIN. THIS IS THE REAL ONE I DELIVER.

NOW. YOU WOULDN'T BE WANTING TO STEAL THIS'N WOULD YE, MATE?
RRRRRR! DAMN YOU!


TELL YOUR MASTERS TO ENJOY THE FALSE SWORD AND STONE! FOR MERLIN WILL CRUSH THEM WITH THE TRUE ONES!
IF YOU AND YOUR MATES DON'T DO ME IN FIRST. GODS!

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT THE DARK COUNCIL WILL DO TO US FOR STEALING THIS OBVIOUS FAKERY?
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO. BARGAIN WITH MERLIN FOR THE REAL ONE
BARGAIN WITH MERLIN? HE'D TURN US INTO WORMMEAT! I'M SICK OF WIZARDS!

WHOOO! LOOKEE! YAHAA! SEE WHAT I CATCHED LURKING OUTSIDE ECTOR'S FORTRESS! A YOUNG FALCON!
THE BOY! BY OCTUS!
LET LOOSE OF ME, YOU HEATHENS! ECTOR'S KNIGHTS ARE RIGHT BEHIND ME!
AND SIR ECTOR THE GUTLESS AT THEIR FORE, I SUPPOSE!

TAKE THIS AND HUSH YE! I KNOW NOT WHAT WORTH THIS SUCKLING, BUT OUR MASTERS WERE FIRM IN VOICING HIS GREAT VALUE... SOMEWHY! BUT WE HAVE HIM NOW!
WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH HIM?

WHAT WERE YE DOING IN THE FOREST, BOY?
I STOLE OUT TO FIND THE BODY OF MY FRIEND SNIVEL, THE GIRL YOU MURDERED!
WOLVES'VE ALREADY ET HER SMELLY CORPSE!
BUT NOW... WE'VE GOT YOU... AS BARGAINING POWER!

AND HOW WILL YOU USE THY BARGAINING POWERS? FOR OR AGAINST WHOM?
THAT IS THE MAN MERLIN'S SERVANT!
FOOL! THAT IS MERLIN, HIMSELF!
THE BETTER THEN! COME, OLD BUZZARD! GIVE US THE REAL STONE AND WE'LL HAVE YOU BACK THE BOY!

MISBEGOTTEN IDIOTS! YOU HAVE STOLEN THE WRONG STONE, AND THUS PLAN TO EXCHANGE IT FOR THE REAL, WITH THE LIFE OF A STUPID SERVANT BOY! HAHAHA! STILL...

...THE BOY IS MORE USEFUL TO ME THAN A PRETTY STONE RIVEN INTO A ROCK.
I KNOW NOT WHY YOUR MASTERS SENT YOU INTO DANGER FOR SUCH A USELESS TRINKET.
HERE!

TAKE MY SILLY BAUBLE IF IT MEANS SO MUCH TO YOU! AND LEAVE MY SLAVE BOY ON THIS ISLAND WHEN YOU'VE GONE!
YEEHEEHEE! IDIOTS! STONES AND SWORDS! HYAH!

DAMN! HE'S RIGHT! RISKING OUR LIVES FOR SUCH FOOLISARY! OLD MERLIN LAUGHS AT US!
WELL...NEVERTHEEMIND LEAVE US FINISH THIS TASK, AND GO HOME. BRING THE BRAT! SERVANT BOYS AND BAUBLES! UHN!

WE'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THIS "PRECIOUS TOY" AND GO OUR WAY.
MERLIN DEFEATS US BY LEAVING IT TO US. DAMN!

LIAR!! THAT OLD LIAR HAS TRICKED US! THIS IS BUT A CHEAP FORGERY! FOR THIS, HE'LL NOT HAVE HIS STONE, HIS FAKE OR HIS SERVANT!
KILL THE BRAT.
MERLIN!!

GET OFF ME, YOU BASTARDS!
THE BRAT HAD A KNIFE! KILL HIM!
GAAGURGILL!

NOW LET US SEE WHO HAS THE SHARPER TALON, YOUNG FALCON!
HURRY, CUT HIS THROAT AND BE DONE! HE HAS THE STRENGTH OF TWO MEN!
LET...ME ...UP!

AIEE! THE EARTH IS MOVING!
DRUID DEVILS! THE ISLAND IS ALIVE!

GIVE MERLIN WHAT HE WANTS! FLEE! 'TIS HORROR BEYOND EVIL!
IT IS EVIL SORCERY! FLEE!
NAAAIEEE!

ARWROO NARR!
YAGH! HELP MEEIIEE! NAAAHUGH!

OHSOOODDAIEE!

THE MONSTER FALLS! HE'LL CRUSH ME!

FLY AWAY FROM HARM, BOY!

BY THE GOD'S EYE-SOCKETS! THE BRAT CHANGED INTO A FALCON! WHAT MAGIC IS HERE!?

COME DOWN, LITTLE BIRD. COME, LET ME SEE YOU!
A FEATHERED SHAFT FOR A FEATHERED BRAT!

DECIDED TO GIVE ME A BIGGER TARGET, DID YE? FINE!

NO! DON'T KILL ME!
YAHAHAHA!

UH UKH, AHUUH

HEY! LITTLE FALCON! I SHOT THE RIGHT BIRD THIS TIME!
SNIVEL!

TIS DONE, AND DAMNED! ARTHUR IS SAFE! SNIVEL IMMORTAL AS ALWAYS! DEAR OLD MYRK HAS HIS FRESH MEAT AND I...HAVE BACK MY STONE.

AND EVEN THESE BLACK RIDERS HAVE SOMETHING...THE RELIEF OF NOT HAVING TO REPORT BACK TO THEIR MASTERS THEY HAVE FAILED.

MERLIN BROUGHT YOU BACK TO LIFE, DIDN'T HE, SNIV?

I'M SORRY YOU WERE WORR,ED. BUT WE MAGICIAN'S FAMILIARS HAVE MORE LIVES THAN CATS. NOW THAT I THINK OF IT... I...USED TO BE A CAT. AH, WELL. ALL IS FINE NOW, EH?

AND MERLIN...WHAT WAS THIS ALL ABOUT? AND WHAT OF ALL THESE STOLEN STONES AND SWORDS AND BLACK RIDERS AND SUCH?

ALL JUST ANOTHER LESSON FOR YOUR STUDIES, MY BOY. MERELY THAT

WELL, ARTHUR, FOR ME, IT'S OFF TO LONDON FOR A BUSINESS TRIP...AND FOR YOU, BACK TO ECTOR'S...FOR SQUIRE TRAINING.

CAN'T I GO WITH YOU, MERLIN?

YOU GO LEARN COURTLY MANNERS WITH SIR KAY AND ECTOR! PERHAPS I'LL SEE YOU LATER.

SNIVEL! DELIVER THE BOY TO ECTOR AND COME ALONG TO LONDON. WORK TO DO, Y'KNOW.

EPILOGUE... A SNOWY FORTNIGHT LATER IN LONDON.
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SO MANY WONDERFUL THINGS, KAY?
SIR KAY!
HOW MANY GAMES WILL YOU ENTER, SIR KAY?

ALL OF THEM. I SHOULD EXPECT TO WIN AS MANY. NOW, SQUIRE, HAND ME MY SWORD THAT I MAY OFFICIALLY ENTER WITH THE JUDGES TABLES.
SWORD? SWORD! OH GOD!

DAMMIT ALL, YOU BRAT! YOU'VE FORGOTTEN TO PACK MY SWORD! I'LL CLUB YOU FOR THIS! I CANNOT ENTER A SINGLE GAME WITHOUT IT!
I'M SORRY, KAY! I'LL GO FIND YOU A SWORD! SOMEWHERE!

ALL IS LOST! ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR STUPIDITY! BRAT!
I'LL BE BACK SOON, KAY!
SIR KAY!

BY CRACKY! THIS IS THE MOST WONDERFUL CITY OF ALL! IF I WERE KING I'D MAKE EACH DAY A WONDERFUL DAY LIKE THIS! CRACKY!
HEY! ARTHUR!

HAVING A VERY MERRY FESTIVAL, ARTHUR?
YOU MEAN, SQUIRE ARTHUR, MERLIN! COME ALONG, AND HAVE SOME SWEETIES AND HOT RUM!
MERLIN! SNIVEL! HOW FINE!

I'M IN GREAT TROUBLE, Y'KNOW. I FORGOT TO PACK KAY'S SWORD AND NOW I HAVE TO FIND HIM ANOTHER ONE.
OH?

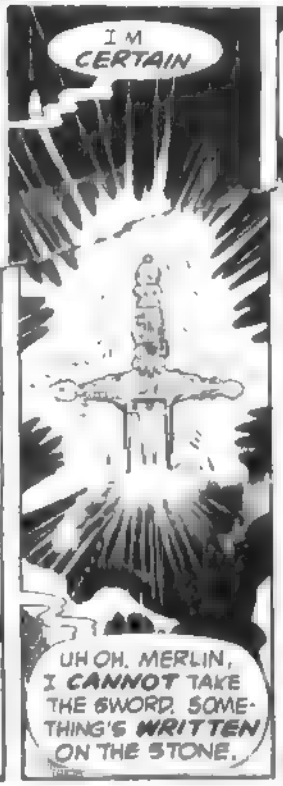
BUT SAY, IT'S SO GREAT TO SEE YOU AGAIN. WHY DID YOU HAVE TO COME TO LONDON ANYWAY?
OH... I HAD TO DELIVER SOMETHING FOR THE KING
BUT THERE IS NO KING SINCE UTHER DIED.
WELL, RIGHT YOU ARE!

SAY... I JUST HAPPEN TO KNOW WHERE THERE'S A SWORD YOU MIGHT COULD HAVE.
REALLY, SIRE? WHERE?
RIGHT BEHIND ME, THERE IN THE COURTYARD

LOOK! THERE IS A SWORD! AND.. IT LOOKS.. FAMILIAR.
ALL SWORDS LOOK ALIKE, Y'KNOW
HOW JOLLY! I CAN BRING IT TO KAY SO HE WON'T BE LATE FOR THE GAMES!

IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL! OF COURSE I'LL JUST BORROW IT... I'D BRING IT BACK, OF COURSE.
BUT OF COURSE SHHH!

GO ON, ARTHUR. THE SWORD IS THERE FOR YOU TO USE.
ARE YOU CERTAIN IT'LL BE ALRIGHT?


I'M CERTAIN
UH OH. MERLIN, I CANNOT TAKE THE SWORD. SOMETHING'S WRITTEN ON THE STONE.

NEVER MIND THAT IT SAYS NOTHING THAT WOULD CONCERN A LITTLE SQUIRE!

GO AHEAD.. KAY IS PROBABLY WAITING FOR IT.. IN FACT...

...THE WHOLE WORLD IS WAITING, MY LORD... ARTHUR!
WHOSOEVER SHALL PULLETH THE SWORD FROM THE STONE SHALL BE CALLED RIGHTFUL KING OF ALL ENGLAND BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND DESTINY.

The EXPEDITION!

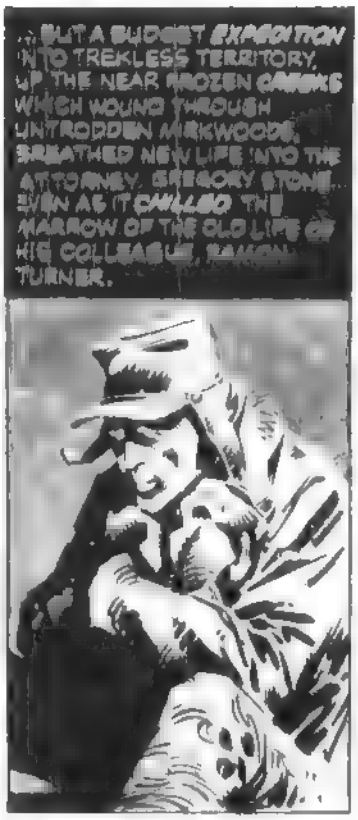
THE FORESTS OF NORTH LOUISIANA ARE DARKER THAN *BLOOD* IN THE DEEPNESS OF WINTER, THICKER THAN *FEAR* AND OMINOUS AS A *HAUNTING*...

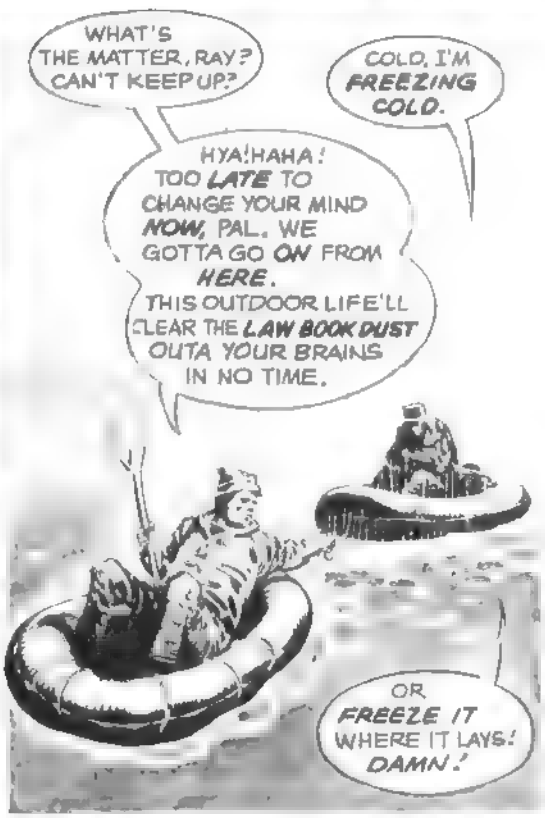
DAMMIT! CAN'T STAND UP ON THIS *SLIMEY* BANK!

THAT'S RIGHT, FALL OFF IN THIS *STINKIN' WATER* AND CATCH *PNEUMONIA* BEFORE WE EVEN GET GOING!

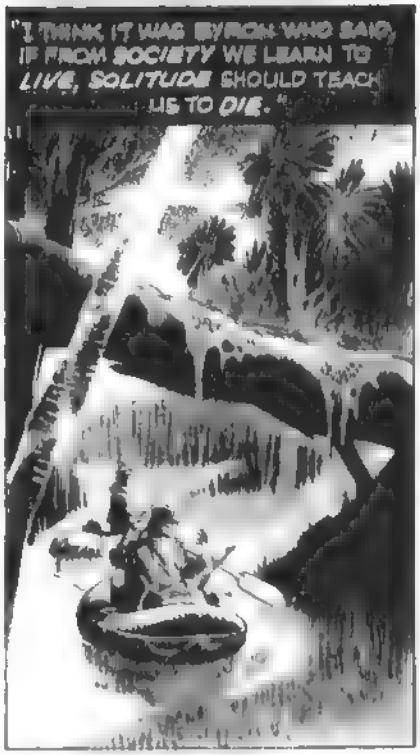
STORY: BUDD LEWIS / ART: LEOPOLD SANCHEZ

A FROST FRAUGHT BUT *SNOWLESS* WINTER HAD BROUGHT A SNOWBOUND FEELING OF *CABIN FEVER* TO THE LARGE OFFICE COMPLEX IN WHICH TWO MEN LABORED FOR THEIR PRIVATE ENTERPRISES. A CUT OFF, SEALED AWAY FEELING ENTERED THE OFFICES AND SECRETARIAL POOLS WHICH *STIFLED* THEIR BASIC HUMAN NATURE...





"I KNOW, TURNER, THERE'S NOTHING MORE SOUL MENDING THAN COMPLETE *SOLITUDE*... JUST LIKE THIS. ALONE, ABSTRACT, REFLECTIVE."


"I THINK IT WAS BYRON WHO SAID, IF FROM *SOCIETY* WE LEARN TO *LIVE*, *SOLITUDE* SHOULD TEACH US TO *DIE*."

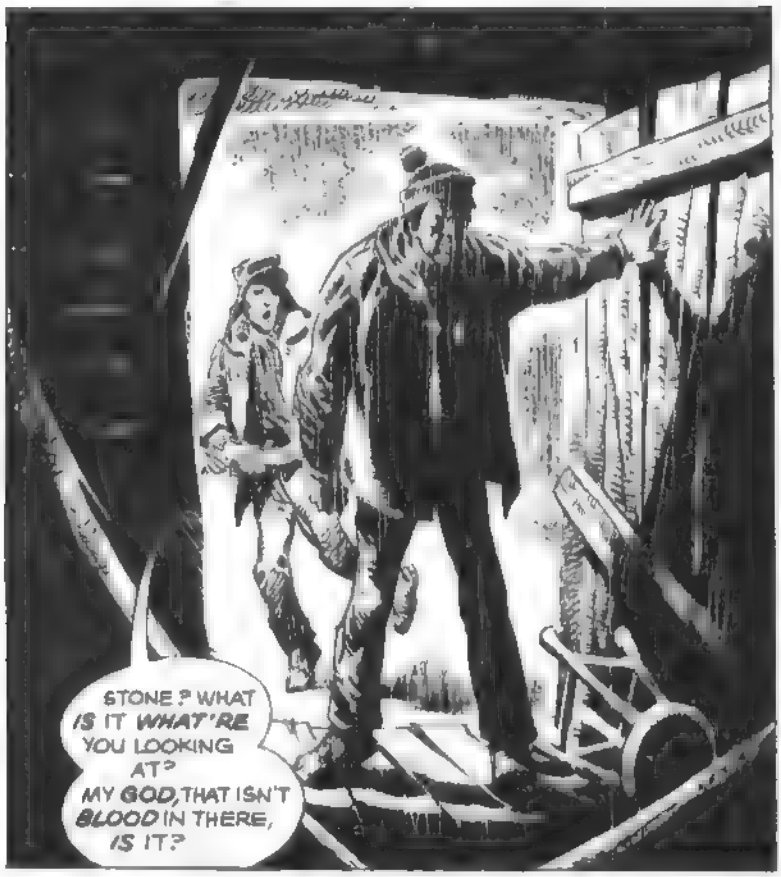
"THEY SAY THAT *DEATH* IS THE ULTIMATE *PEACE*. THEN ITS BEEN YEARS SINCE I'VE FELT SO CLOSE TO *DYING*."

AH ME, BUT I GUESS HALF THE *PLEASURE* OF SOLITUDE COMES FROM HAVING A FRIEND TO WHOM YOU CAN SAY HOW *NICE* ALL THIS *SOLITUDE* IS. SAY, THERE'S A CLEARING... WANT TO PULL THERE AND *CAMP*?
I HAVE *CEASED* TO CARE. *SUCH* IS MY FROZEN *NUMBNESS*!

LOOKS LIKE AND OLD *SHACK* UP IN THERE.
THINK ANYBODY'S HOME?

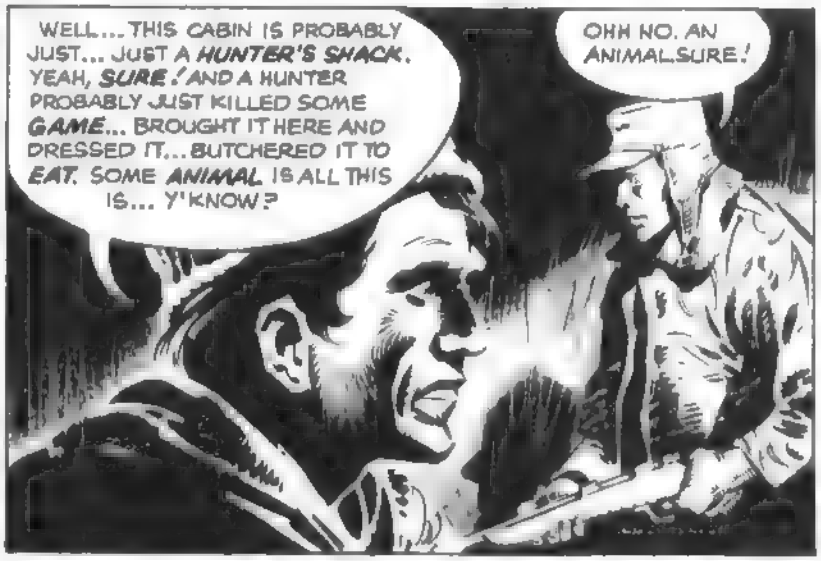
I *HOPE* NOT.

GREG... WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU *LOOKING* AT? WHAT'S WRONG?
I DON'T KNOW, RAY. BUT SOMETHING'S *HAPPENED* HERE!


STONE? WHAT IS IT WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT? MY GOD, THAT ISN'T BLOOD IN THERE, IS IT?

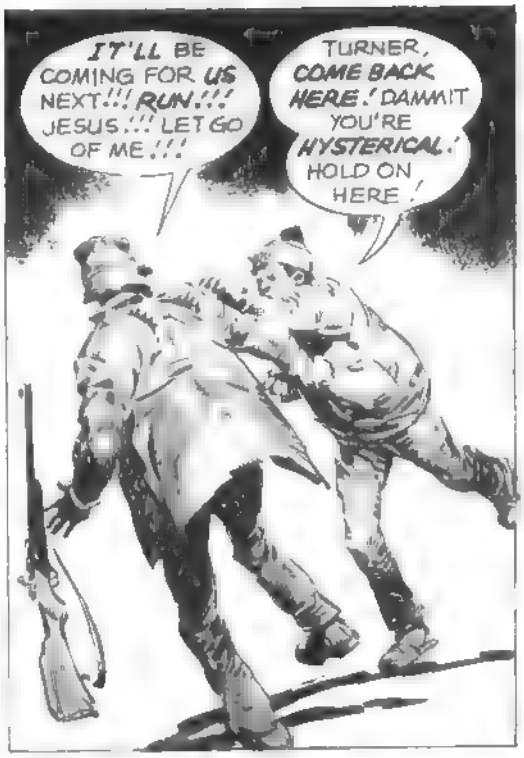
OH... CHRIST JESUS! WHAT IS ALL THIS?
BLOOD! BUCKETS OF BLOOD EVERYWHERE! GREG! LET'S GET OUTA HERE! SOMEBODY'S BEEN BUTCHERED HERE! MURDERED! THE KILLER MIGHT STILL BE AROUND!

RAY, THIS... THIS MAY BE ONLY... ONLY ANIMAL BLOOD ..Y'KNOW?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


WELL... THIS CABIN IS PROBABLY JUST... JUST A HUNTER'S SHACK. YEAH, SURE! AND A HUNTER PROBABLY JUST KILLED SOME GAME... BROUGHT IT HERE AND DRESSED IT... BUTCHERED IT TO EAT. SOME ANIMAL IS ALL THIS IS... Y'KNOW?
OHH NO. AN ANIMAL SURE!

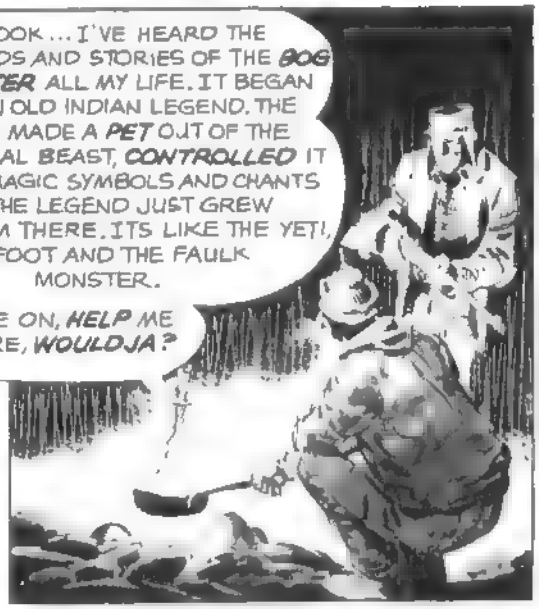
BUT IT WAS THE ANIMAL THAT DID THE BUTCHERING!

GREG... I GOTTA GET OUTA HERE! WE GOTTA GET... WE GOTTA GET OUTA THIS PLACE! THE BLOOD... SOMETHING .. SOMETHING SLAUGHTERED HIM... WE GOTTA... GET OUTA--
TURNER! GET CONTROL OF YOURSELF!


IT'LL BE COMING FOR US NEXT!!! RUN!!! JESUS!!! LET GO OF ME!!!
TURNER, COME BACK HERE! DAMMIT YOU'RE HYSTERICAL! HOLD ON HERE!

YOU'RE NOT GOING ANY-WHERE!
PLEASE, LET S GET OUT OF HERE!
NO! IT'LL BE DARK SOON. YOU'D NEVER MAKE IT!

WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING FOR SURE. WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE CAMP HERE. WE'LL GO BACK IN THE MORNING AND REPORT WHAT WE SAW TO THE AUTHORITIES!
IT'S TRUE... ISN'T IT? THE LEGENDS OF THE THING IN THESE WOODS? IT'S TRUE!


OH, LOOK... I'VE HEARD THE LEGENDS AND STORIES OF THE BOG MONSTER ALL MY LIFE. IT BEGAN WITH AN OLD INDIAN LEGEND. THE INDIANS MADE A PET OUT OF THE MYTHICAL BEAST, CONTROLLED IT WITH MAGIC SYMBOLS AND CHANTS AND THE LEGEND JUST GREW FROM THERE. ITS LIKE THE YETI, BIGFOOT AND THE FAULK MONSTER.
COME ON, HELP ME HERE, WOULDJA?

WELL, YOU SIT UP IF YOU WANT TO, BUT I'M FOR GETTING A LITTLE SLEEP. IT'S A LONG PADDLE BACK UPCREEK TOMORROW.
I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU AREN'T UPSET BY THIS!

YOU... YOU AREN'T WORRIED AT ALL... ARE YOU, STONE? NOT AT ALL...!

HOW ODD YOU ACT OL BUDDY IF SOMEONE DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, THEY'D SWEAR YOU ACT TOO CALM LIKE, IT WAS YOUR IDEA TO BUY RAFTS, TREK UP THESE CREEKS... DIDN'T WANT TO BRING HIGH POWER GUNS JUST THESE 22'S AND.. YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT THE BOG MONSTER LEGENDS.
HOW ODD YOU ACT... OL' BUDDY. HOW REAL, DAMNED ODD...

YOU KNOW... SOMETHING, DON'T YOU... OL' BUD... DY?
BUT... YOU... AREN'T... SAYING... ANY... THING...

CRAK
UHMM?

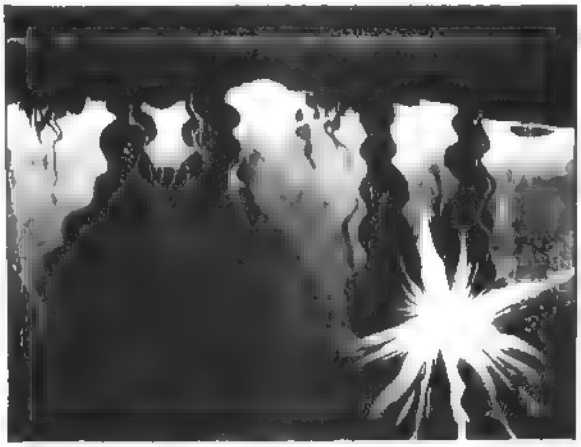
WH...WHO'S...
NNNAAAAAHHHIIEEE!!!

KASPLASH!..
YAHHHAAAHHAAA!!!
IT'S HERE!!! STONE!!!
IT'S HERE!!!
AAAAHHHH!

WHAT THE HELL?
THE THING! IT WAS STANDING RIGHT OVER YOU! I SAW IT! IT STEPPED ON A TWIG AND I WOKE UP AND THERE IT WAS! I YELLED AND IT RAN TO THE CREEK AND DOVE IN! GET YOUR GUN! IT'LL COME BACK!

AW HELL, RAY! YOU'RE JUMPING AT SHADOWS! OR DREAMING! MAN, THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS THE BOG MONSTER!
I'M TELLING YOU IT JUMPED IN THE WATER. GET YOUR FLASH LIGHT AND LOOK RIGHT THERE! LOOK!!!

GOOD GRIEF! ALRIGHT, I'LL SHOW YOU... SEE? THERE'S NOT A DAMNED THING HERE BUT ME AND YOU!



NOTHING! NOT A RIPPLE!
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU, STONE? WHAT ARE YOU COVERING UP? YOU KNOW SOMETHING AND ARE PLAYING STUPID! WHAT ARE YOU COVERING UP?

MY ASS! I'M FREEZING AND I'M SLEEPY AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO STAY UP AND SHOOT AT FISH JUMPING IN THE CREEK THAT SCARE YOU! I'M COVERING UP MY FREEZING ASS! NOW LEAVE ME ALONE, FOOL!

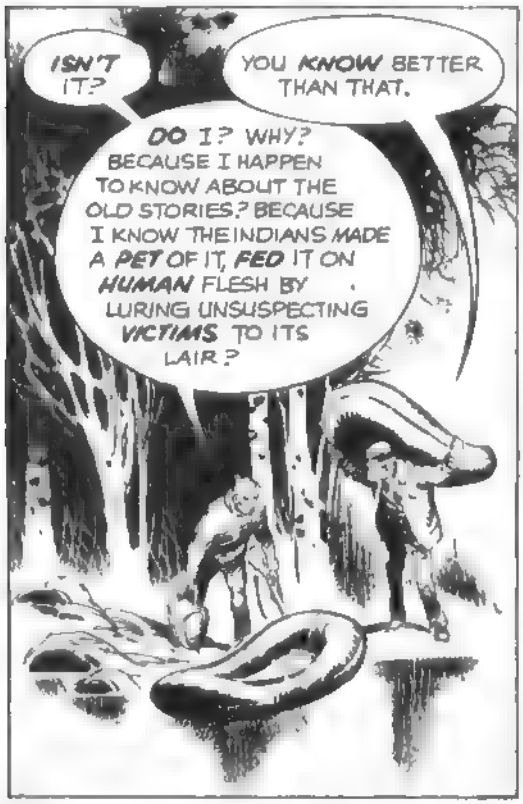
YOU KNOW! YOU KNOW! I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR EYES, YOU BASTARD! BUT IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD. I'LL SEE THIS THING OUT TO THE END.

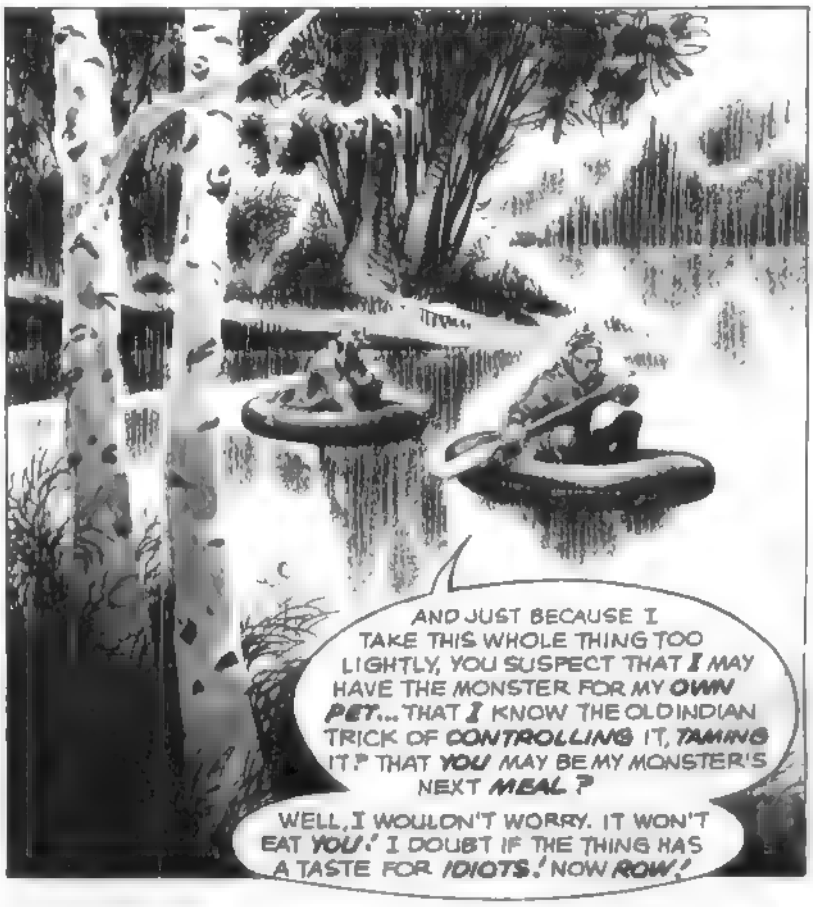
WAKE UP! DAMMIT! ITS DAWN!

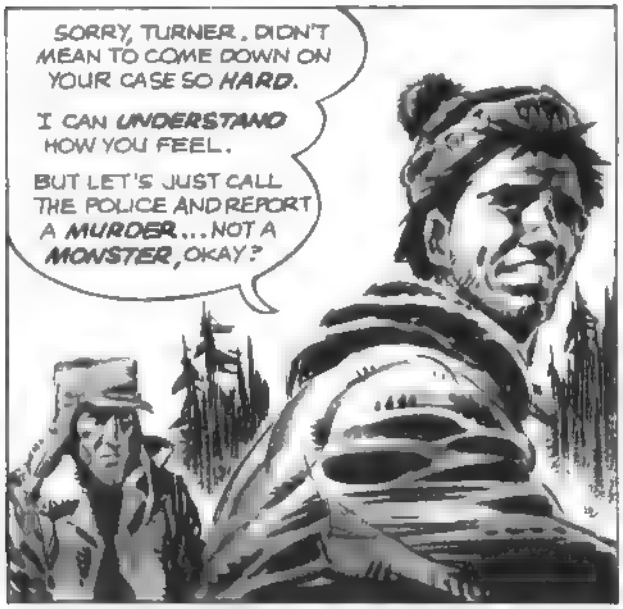
YAWN. AND A GOOD MORNING TO YOU TOO, BRIGHT EYES.
LET'S GET MOVING.
HEY, HOW 'BOUT SOME BREAKFAST... IT'LL PUT YOU IN A BETTER HUMOR.
NO!

NO BREAKFAST THEN IT IS. BUT YOU BETTER TAKE A STIFF BELT OF THIS. IT'LL WARM UP YOUR INNARDS.
JUMP TO HELL!

YOU'RE REALLY BUGGED OUTA YOUR SKULL ABOUT OLD BOGGY, AREN'T YOU?
AND YOU REALLY THINK ITS ALL A JOKE, DON'T YOU?


ISN'T IT?
YOU KNOW BETTER THAN THAT.
DO I? WHY? BECAUSE I HAPPEN TO KNOW ABOUT THE OLD STORIES? BECAUSE I KNOW THE INDIANS MADE A PET OF IT, FED IT ON HUMAN FLESH BY LURING UNSUSPECTING VICTIMS TO ITS LAIR?


AND JUST BECAUSE I TAKE THIS WHOLE THING TOO LIGHTLY, YOU SUSPECT THAT I MAY HAVE THE MONSTER FOR MY OWN PET... THAT I KNOW THE OLD INDIAN TRICK OF CONTROLLING IT, TAMING IT? THAT YOU MAY BE MY MONSTER'S NEXT MEAL?
WELL, I WOULDN'T WORRY. IT WON'T EAT YOU! I DOUBT IF THE THING HAS A TASTE FOR IDIOTS! NOW ROW!


SORRY, TURNER. DIDN'T MEAN TO COME DOWN ON YOUR CASE SO HARD.
I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL.
BUT LET'S JUST CALL THE POLICE AND REPORT A MURDER... NOT A MONSTER, OKAY?

WHAT THE HELL?... HEY, MY DEPTH GAUGE REGISTERS SOMETHING HERE!

THIS GAUGE READS A LARGE OBJECT... THREE FEET UNDER MY BOAT! ITS MOVING!

GODDAMN! I CAN SORTA SEE SOMETHING...CRAP! WATER'S TOO MURKY! WHAT IS THAT THING?

STONE, DON'T SHOOT... I MEAN, IF ITS RIGHT UNDER YOU... YOU COULDN'T GET A GOOD SHOT AT IT! WAIT 'TIL IT MOVES AWAY FROM US!
KACHIK

YEAH. HELL, IT'S PROBABLY A BIG OL' FISH FOLLOWING US!
BET I COULD REACH DOWN AND TOUCH IT! THAT'LL SCARE IT OFF. BEAT IT, YOU!
WHEW! WATER'S FREEZI... YAH AHHH!

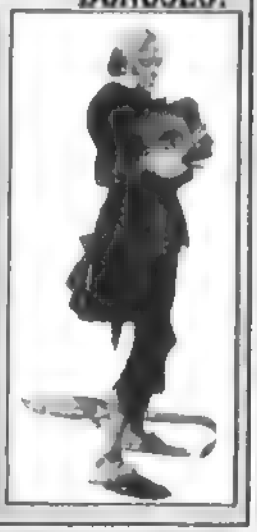
NNNAAAAR
TUURRNERRR!!! ITS GOT MEEEE! SHOOT IT!!! GODDAM...
KASPLOOOHH

IN THE LOUISIANA TIMBER COUNTRY THERE ARE LEGENDS. DARK, FRIGHTENING LEGENDS OF THINGS THAT PROWL THE FORESTS. NO ONE HAS EVER PROVED THE MARROW CHILLING STORIES FALSE, BUT THEN AGAIN... NO LIVING MAN HAS EVER PROVED THEM TRUE.

THE FORESTS OF NORTH LOUISIANA ARE DARKER THAN BLOOD IN THE DEEPNESS OF WINTER, THICKER THAN FEAR AND OMINOUS AS... A HAUNTING.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY & RECEIVE A FREE GIFT!

UNCLE CREEPY CROAKS "SUBSCRIBE NOW!" & RECEIVE THESE BONUSES!



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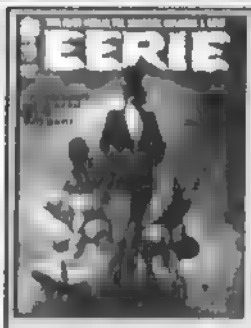

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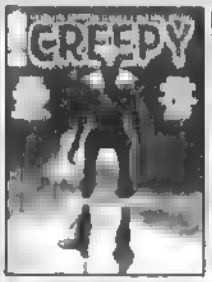
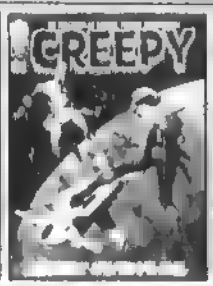
PRESENTING THE 1975 WARREN AWARDS!

BEST COVERS OF THE YEAR 1975

KEN KELLY

At the 1974 **Warren Awards**, we predicted that 1975 would be **Ken's** year! And, true to form, **Ken** topped even our wildest expectations. Witness the covers reproduced below. Exciting covers that show his sure hand and artistic sense!





Best Covers of 1975: CREEPY #72, 73 and EERIE #64!

BEST ART IN A STORY 1975

BERNI WRIGHTSON

Painting has kept **Berni** busy in 1975, but luckily he managed to find time for **Warren Publishing** in his schedule. Besides time, interior cover illustrations, he wrote and illustrated "The Muck Monster." Best Art in A Story in 1975!

Best Art: Wrightson's "Muck Monster," EERIE #64!

ARTIST/WRITER BEST OF THE YEAR 1975

FERNANDO FERNANDEZ

Fernandez' exquisite graphic style has long been admired by **Warren** readers. Now **Fernandez** has proven his prowess as a writer, scripting, as well as illustrating, the moving, **Warren Award** winning sci-fi tale, "Good-Bye, My Love!"

Artist/Writer Fernandez' "Good-Bye, My Love!"

BEST STORY OF THE YEAR 1975

JIM STENSTRUM

Jim's berzerk! Wild! Erratic! Creative! Completely bananas! And a darn fine writer! These mixed qualities helped create "Thrillkill!" a tense sniper tale that won him reader raves and a **Warren Award**! 'Thrillkill'. Best In 1975!

1975's Best Story: Jim Stenstrum's "Thrillkill!"

"Stay with us in 1975. And hold onto your hats. You think **Warren** can't top 1974?

'Just watch us!'

This quote from the 1974 **Warren Awards** proved prophetic. '74 was a very good year for **Warren Publishing**. But '75 was even **better**!

It was a particularly good year for **covers**. Letters pages were full of praise for **Ken Kelly's** award winning paintings, as well as the gorgeous work of **Sanjulian** and **Erich**!

Berni Wrightson, Neal Adams and **Wally Wood** made brief, much-lauded appearances in 1975 that left **Warren** readers clamoring for more!

Warren introduced the fine Spanish artist, **Zesar**. And **Alex Toth** returned with his own, particularly brilliant brand of graphics . . . and some of the year's most memorable yarns!

John Severin's work began to appear regularly, to the joy of numerous **Severin** aficionados the world over!

And the superb efforts of **Jose Ortiz, Leopold Sanchez, Paul Neary, Auraleon, Esteban Maroto, Ramon Torrents** and **Jose Gonzalez** continue to make the **Warren** magazines shine!

But there's more to **Warren** magazines than pictures! Writers **Budd Lewis, Bill DuBay, Gerry Boudreau, Rich Margopoulos, Bruce Jones, Bruce Bezaire** and **Jim Stenstrum** stunned readers with incredible concepts and prolific prose!

EERIE introduced some exciting new series and, in that inimitable EERIE fashion, ended others. **El Cid** appeared, along with **Merlin, Coffin**, the **Freaks**, and an alien called **Pie**. EERIE intro-

Every year since 1970, the Warren Awards have been presented to the artists and writers who have produced the finest stories and art in Warren Publishing's graphic horror line . . . CREEPY, EERIE and VAMPIRELLA! Past winners have included Frank Frazetta, Archie Goodwin, Neal Adams, Wally Wood, Rich Corben and more of the most talented men in comics. This year's winners were selected from the artists and writers appearing in the Warren magazines in 1975 . . . a group fully representative of the best comics and Warren has to offer. These awards are a tribute to their talent and efforts!

BEST ALL AROUND ARTIST
JOHN SEVERIN

"John Severin can draw anything!" raves an excited reader "Westerns! War stories! Science fiction! Medieval morality tales! City stories! **Severin's** tops!" We think so too! Thus, **Warren** votes him "Best All Around Artist" for 1975!

Best All Around Artist. He can draw anything!

SPECIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
SANJULIAN

Back in 1970, Sanjulian's excellent cover paintings gave **Warren** covers a powerful, sophisticated look. His paintings continue to grace the covers of **Warren** magazines and continue to shine! Below, several reasons for his Award!

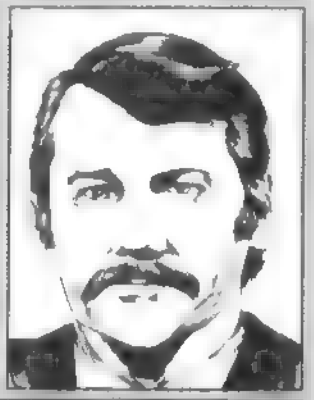
Special Award Covers: EERIE #66, #70 and #71!

BEST ALL AROUND WRITER
BRUCE BEZAIRE

Bruce may not be as "bizarre" as his name implies, but his stories are very unusual! Top notch horror adventures like "Gamal and the Cockatrice" speculative epics like "Snow" and "Purge" have earned him 1975's "Best Writer" Award!

Best All Around Writer: Bezaire adventures!

SPECIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
ALEX TOTH



Alex Toth is a pioneer using graphics far ahead of their time and story-telling ability, unsurpassed! **Warren Publishing** is proud to present him with an award . . tribute to his innovative art in 1975!

"Pleasure Island!" Incredible Toth graphics!

duced the **Exterminator Robots** . . one of which eventually joined another new series character, **Hunter II.**

VAMPIRELLA took off in a new direction when **Bill DuBay** took over as writer of the series. And '75 saw the beginning of the great VAMPIRELLA controversy . . . who is the best artist to illustrate the VAMPI series?

The end of hectic, exciting 1975 brought a big change to the **Warren** magazines **Bill DuBay** resigned as Editor of **Warren's** graphic horror line He had been with **Warren Publishing** for four years. His redesign of the graphics of the interior of the magazines earned him a **Warren Award** in 1972 Under his leadership, the magazines acquired a unique graphic approach and editorial direction!

The **Warren** staff, **Louise Jones, Bill Mohalley** and **Jim Imes** will miss him as Editor, but readers will be excited to learn that they can now expect to read even more hair-raising **DuBay** adventures. To his delight, **Dube** now is able to take pen in hand, **full time!**

1975 was full of excitement and change And '76 will hold even more surprises!

Old writers and artists will be back, of course, with some of their finest stories yet! Characters will be created. Some will disappear . . . and reappear in some very odd places!

We'll be introducing some fine young writers, like **Roger McKenzie** and **Dave Sims.** There'll be some new artists. And some old favorites, like **Russ Heath,** will return!

So if you thought 1975 was a good year, wait'll you see **Warren** in '76!

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IL PIACERE DELLA PAURA
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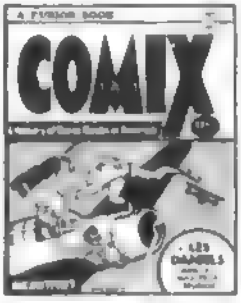

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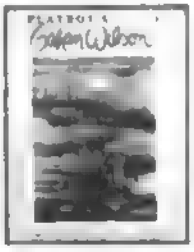

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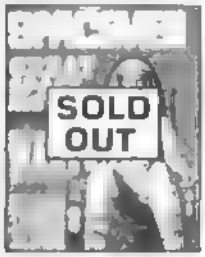

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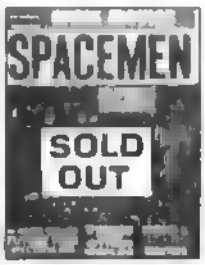

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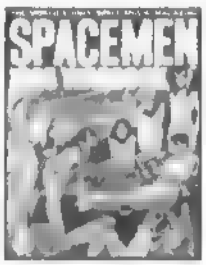

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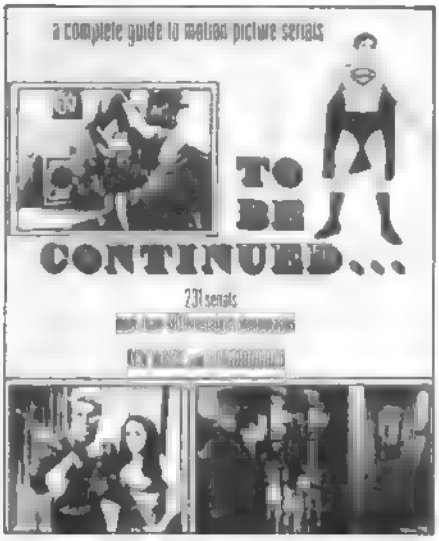

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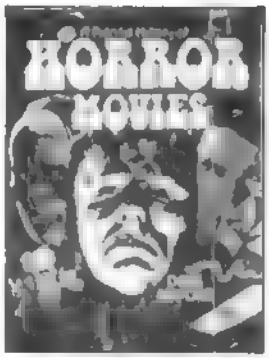

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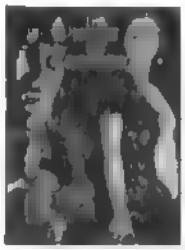

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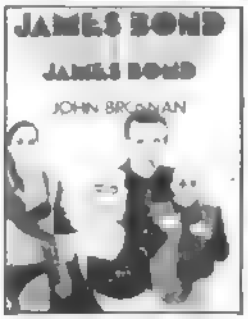

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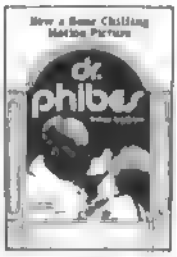

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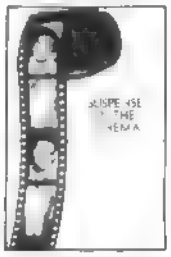

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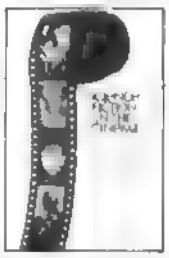

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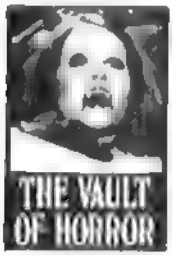

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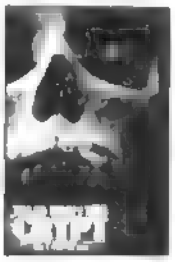

Five tormented tales guaranteed to keep you awake long into the night! Based on the terrifying film and horror comics! #2111 TALES FROM THE CRYPT 95¢

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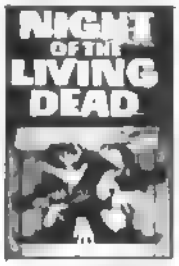

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Perhaps Jules Verne's creation of the fantastic Nautilus predicted the invention of today's submarine! 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA 95¢ #2121

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The adventures of Phineas Fogg Esq and his valet as they travel around the world in a race against time #2122 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS 95¢

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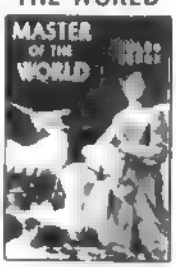

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Fantastic tale of two men on the first flight to the moon! You are there as they discover an unknown civilization #2113 FIRST MEN IN THE MOON 95¢

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H G Wells incredible vision of the future evolution of mankind when two different races of people existed on the same world #2120 TIME MACHINE 95¢

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One of the world's great suspense thrillers! Written by the one and only H G Wells, it was the basis for the Claude Rains movie! #2103 THE INVISIBLE MAN 95¢

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A story so real it caused a nation-wide panic when broadcast over the radio by Orson Welles! One of H G Wells greatest! #2105 WAR OF THE WORLDS 95¢

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Asimov's bold tale of medical team miniaturized & injected into dying man's artery to destroy brain clot against great odds #21015 FANTASTIC VOYAGE 95¢

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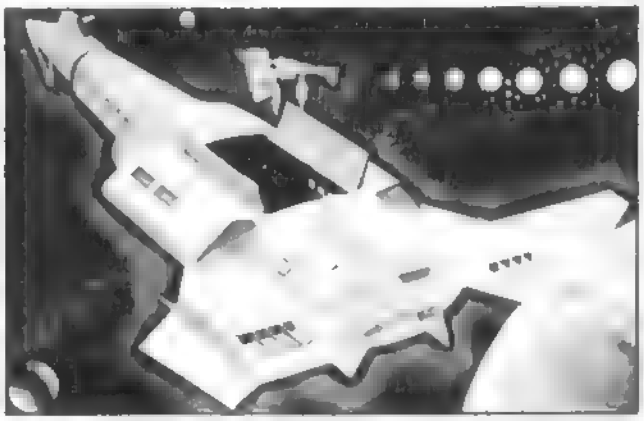
U.F.O. HOBBY KIT

GLOWS IN THE DARK



Here's an incredible plastic model that glows in the dark! From "somewhere out there" it comes, a luminescent spaceship of alien invaders. This hobby kit is a big thirteen inches long when assembled. It comes complete with display stand, and carries a miniature scout ship in its launch deck. Also, the doors to the launch deck open so that the mini spaceship can be removed. Extremely detailed, each and every highlight stands out when you turn off the lights. Own an entire fleet! #2492/$3.00

What's A Ghidalia?

It's one of the world's foremost horror anthologists, collector of the finest works in horror history. He, along with L. Srague DeCamp, Peter Haining, and Roger Elwood present the greatest tales of the Devil ever published!

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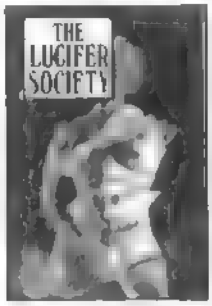
SATAN'S PETS Ten incredible horror tales in which animals are possessed by demons. By Bloch, Leinster, and others! Order #21007 95¢

WARLOCKS AND WARRIORS Amazing Steranko cover with 10 tales of sword and sorcery by Leiber, Kuttner, Carter, and others. Illus. #2198

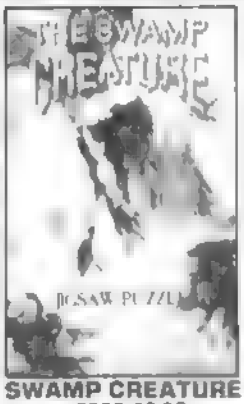


THE LUCIFER SOCIETY A massive book featuring 24 stories on the subject of Fear. By Capote, Churchill, and other greats. #21089/$1.25

WIZARDS AND WARLOCKS 9 stories by Bloch, Hawthorne, Derleth, and others about sci-fi and the magician! An unusual work! #21002

PUZZLES OF THE UNDEAD

THE MUMMY #2686 $2.00



SWAMP CREATURE #2688/$2.00

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THE ZOMBIE #2687/$2.00

PLANET OF THE APES PLASTIC WIND-UP WALKING DOLLS

These are perhaps two of the greatest little robots since Metropolis! 3 inches tall and ready to go! Just wind the plastic key in their sides and off they trundle, foot over foot. Dr. Zaius with his flaming hair and blue suit and sombre Cornelius with black hair and brown costume marching side by side. $1.39 each!

CORNELIUS #2692 DR. ZAIUS #2691

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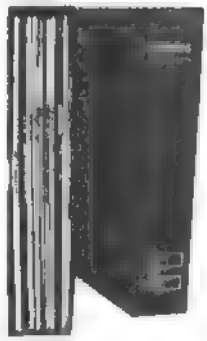
SAVE YOUR EERIE



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You must know how valuable Warren magazines are. You know how back issues increase in desirability and price as the supply of mint copies dwindles. So, you serious collectors of our books must be pleased to know that we're bringing out a whole fantastic line of CUSTOM DESIGNED LEATHERETTE FINISH LIBRARY CASES. Each one holds a one-year run of this, your favorite imaginative horror mag and keeps that run in superb condition. And has our title in gold type right on the spine! Fantastic! Order today!

This ERRIE LIBRARY CASE features a Navy Blue spine and black leatherette body. #2636 EERIE LIBRARY CASE $4.95

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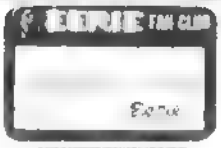
BADGE

COUSIN EERIE'S OWN FAN CLUB AND IT'S BETTER THAN THE BIG CREEP'S!! Here are the gruesome Goodies you get when you join Cousin Eerie's Fan Club. A magnificent PORTRAIT of Cousin Eerie by horror comics genius Richard Corben, ready for framing. PLUS the Official full-color Eerie CLUB BADGE (high quality, heavy duty metal). PLUS your Official wallet-size Eerie MEMBERSHIP CARD (individually & personally numbered)! As soon as you receive your terrorific treasure trove you'll chortle with glee. The items are that magnificently gruesome! You'll wear your ghastly Cousin Eerie Badge & carry the monstrous Membership Card with pride! All 3 of these enervating Eerie-ish items for ONLY $2.00. Send NOW!



MEMBERSHIP CARD

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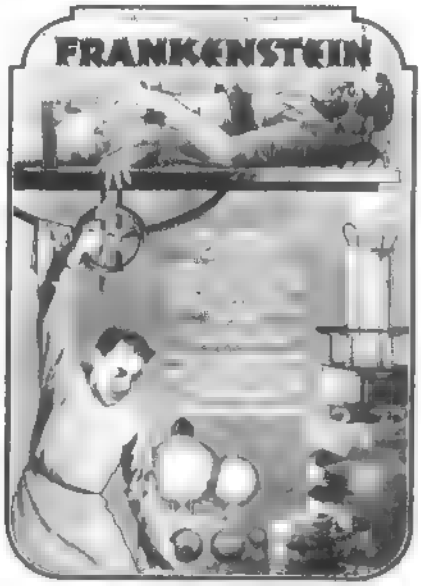
A GIANT 38" X 26" FULL COLOR POSTER!

FRANKENSTEIN!

WITH BORIS KARLOFF AND COLIN CLIVE!



Film Classics Library, who brought you stop-frame filmbooks for a number of classics including the original "Frankenstein," have now created a monumental full color poster "Frankenstein". Featuring the laboratory. The Monster's first moment of life, the mad creative Dr. Frankenstein and his urgent impassioned plea for understanding.

Where should we be if nobody tried to find out what lies beyond? Have you never wanted to look beyond the clouds and the stars or know what causes the trees to bud what changes darkness into light? But if you talk like that people call you crazy. Well if I could discover just one of these things . . . what eternity is, for example . I wouldn't care if they did think I was crazy." A big vibrant poster! 38"x26"! A full-color giant! #2974/$1.98

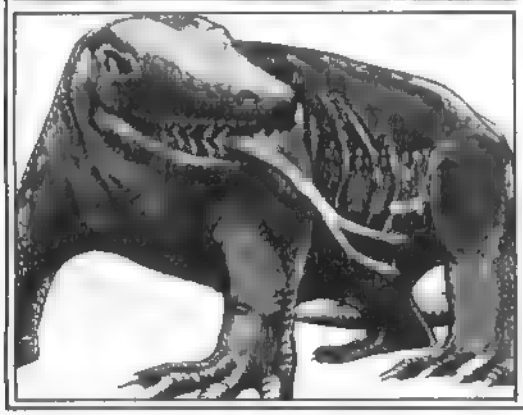
THE MAN! THE MONSTER! THE PHILOSOPHY! IN A SCENE MONTAGE FROM THIS MOVIE CLASSIC!

MIGHTY MONSTER KITS

SNAP-TOGETHER KITS WITH MOVABLE PARTS

KILLER GORILLA

Over 8" tall this is an exciting hobby kit of one of the most powerful creatures ever to roam the earth. A ferocious pose by this real life monster will add a brutal touch of the jungle to your room. Instructions are included. Order #24102/$3.50



KOMODO DRAGON

This is a reptilian monster that really lives! This ten-foot long monster inhabits the isle of Komodo, where his forked tongue lashes out at the inhabitants of the land. The kit is over 7" long, and features this dragon in all his gruesome glory. #24101/$3.50

PEN A POSTER

COLOR YOUR OWN DELUXE PREHISTORIC MONSTERS!

Color this frightening 39"x14½" poster and what will you have? One of the most terrifying wall hangings any do-it-yourself poster freak could ask for! Giant Tyrannosaurus Rex roars. Stegosaurus stalks through a fabulous landscape filled with the lush flora and fauna of the Cretaceous period. Choose your own colors. No one knows how dinosaurs were colored or patterned. Be fanciful. The Pen A Poster kit comes complete with a black and white design on high quality paper and all the colors you'll need to create a prehistoric masterpiece. #2695/$4.50

make us your bag!

Get your collector's item tote bag while the supply lasts!

Attention, Collectors! On sale for a limited time only! The Warren publishing tote bags, distributed at the 1973 and 1974 New York Comic Art Conventions! Both bags are made of 14"x17" quality yellow heavy weight vinyl with snap grip handles. Each has the "WARREN-MAKE US YOUR BAG" slogan plus drawings of the Warren characters. The 1973 bag is printed in red, 1974 has purple lettering and reads "New York Comic Art Convention 1974". A perfect way to transport mint condition comics. Orders for a specific bag cannot be honored since the supply of both is limited. Order one bag! We will send you what we have in stock! #2689 ONLY 99¢

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FRIGHT FILMS REGULAR & SUPER 8

FRANKENSTEIN MEETS THE WOLFMAN

High in the Carpathian Mountains, a mad scientist works to revive the Frankenstein monster. And he succeeds, in time for the living corpse to do battle with a rampant wolfman. Lightning, fangs, and action galore. Fight between the monsters is one of horror filmdoms finest. Stars Lugosi as Frankenstein, and Chaney as Wolfman. #2227/$9.95

DOOM OF DRACULA

Boris Karloff portrays a carnival owner who locates the remains of Count Dracula. He brings the vampire back to life, and sends him on an utterly diabolical mission. Soon, however, Karloff realizes he has made a mistake, as Dracula turns on him! John Carradine plays Dracula. Sequel is "House of Frankenstein" film. #2246/$9.95

THE INVISIBLE MAN

This is it! The original motion picture featuring HG Wells' classic character. This effort introduced the great Claude Raines to the industry. Startling special effects by John P. Fulton, which show man who becomes transparent due to scientific experiments. A chilling, absorbing film, one of the all-time greats. #2237/$9.95

HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN

Follow-up feature to "Doom of Dracula." Karloff stars as scientist disguised as Carny owner, who is journeying the world-over in search of the Frankenstein monster. And, finally, he finds it . . . returning it to life. But then, trouble! For the Wolfman arrives on the scene, to destroy the doctor and his new 'patient.' #2247/$9.95

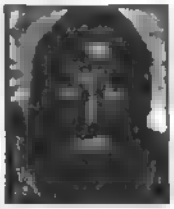
THE "ORIGINAL" MUMMY

One of Karloff's most memorable performances; one of the great horror films. Excavation in Egypt uncovers tomb of Mummy Im-ho-tep. That night, he comes back to life. After murdering one of the scientists, the bandaged beast makes for London. There, he seeks the reincarnation of his one-time Egyptian mistress. Film is Im-ho-TOPS! #2224/$9.95

THE MUMMY'S GHOST

Here is an exciting sequel to "The Mummy." Lon Chaney portrays the man of rotted cloth, as he terrorizes a scientific gathering about his sacred sarcophagus. And, as fate would have it, he falls for the young lady scientist who is a part of this expedition. This Mummy is more brutal, more deadly than the Karloff one. #2269/$9.95

REVENGE OF THE CREATURE



A sequel to the original "Creature" film, this movie has a second excursion into the beast's Amazonian home to capture the monster. They take him into captivity and civilization. There, from the confines of an aquarium pool, the Creature brutally mangles his captors and escapes! Rampant, the Gill-Man kills mawyl #2254/$9.95

I WAS A TEENAGE WEREWOLF

One of the most popular monster movies in history. A young boy visits a psychiatrist for to solve his various hang-ups. But the doctor, himself, is deranged, and hypnotizes the boy. Under hypnosis, the young man is convinced by the psychiatrist [redacted] he is a werewolf! Then, it's off to kill for the doctor! #2221/$9.95

RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE

This is the big one! Vampire vs. werewolf in horrific shocker. Bela Lugosi portrays the blood-gulper, who subjugates a ferocious werewolf. And, then, together, the two go in search of unsuspecting victims. Lugosi is at his menacing best in this, one of his four vampire roles. The ending is a gripping one, that must be seen. #2267/$9.95

RETURN OF DRACULA

Dracula is back, in the form of actor Charles Lederer. The Count moves into a small, isolated town and begins to live as a parasite, sucking the blood of the plain country folk around him. All goes well . . . until the infamous monster is found out . . . and hunted. One of the most unusual Dracula films ever produced. A must. #2273/$9.95

MAN-MADE MONSTER

A team-up of two great horror actors. Lionel Atwill portrays a mad scientist, and Lon Chaney, a truck driver killed in an accident. Atwill discovers the body and through the use of high-voltage electricity, brings Chaney back to life. But the truck driver is no longer human. He's become an electric monstrosity! #2264$9.95

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME

A classic of filmmaking. The second filming of Hugo's immortal novel stars Charles Laughton as the horribly misshapen hunchback called Quasimodo. This brilliant film tells of the beast's love for a beauty. The gypsy Esmeralda. And the horrors that befall the young girl in the France of yore. A sensitive monster movie. #2238 $9.95

TASTE THE BLOOD OF DRACULA

Many fans of horror films consider Christopher Lee the finest screen Dracula. And in this film, his awesome talent is in evidence. Tall, violent, and menacing, Lee is the immortal count. Here, he travels from Transylvania to London. His plan is to ravage four respectable families in the great city. And this he does, brutally! #2265/$9.95

STRAIT-JACKET

Joan Crawford, star of "Whatever Happened to Baby Jane" joined with "Rosemary's Baby" Bill Castle to create this modern-day horror classic. This film is not for the faint-hearted, as it is about a series of brutal axe-murders. Is Crawford victim or killer? Warning: vicious axe-killings appear in this film. A real shocker! #2266/$9.95

THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS

Peter Lorre stars in this incredible film of a concert pianist. So far, not very frightening. But when he is possessed by devilish madness, his gentle hands become instruments of vile murder. And then is unleashed [redacted] Beast With Five Fingers. Lorre at his horrific best, with a fine supporting cast. #2230$9.95

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SUPER ADVENTURE RECORD ALBUMS

Now you can own the most exciting full-length stories of all-time, in the form of these seven adventure-filled record albums. Each is a long-playing 33-1/3 disc, with exciting sound effects, professional actors, and thrill-a-minute action. Based on novels by HG Wells and Jules Verne, these tales of high-adventure will lift you out of the ordinary and into worlds of fantastic imagination. Own the entire set; each is 45 minutes of excitement. Order today!

FIRST MEN IN THE MOON by HG Wells This is the story of two men who journey from the earth to the moon in the late 19th century There they find the incredible selenites #2354 $2.49

THE TIME MACHINE, by HG Wells A man travels from 1899 to the year 800 000 There, he finds a world of monsters such as human eyes have never before beheld A sci-fi classic! #2355 $2.49

WAR OF THE WORLDS by HG Wells Our planet is invaded by martians who construct incredible war machines with ray guns galore In short order, the earth is reduced to rubble #2356 $2.49

20 000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA by Jules Verne The amazing story of Captain Nemo and his Nautilus submarine Adventure beneath the sea as the men battle monsters and warships galore #2357 $2.49

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS by Jules Verne It started as a friendly bet but it evolved into a life and death race with time One of the greatest adventure stories ever told #2358 $2.49

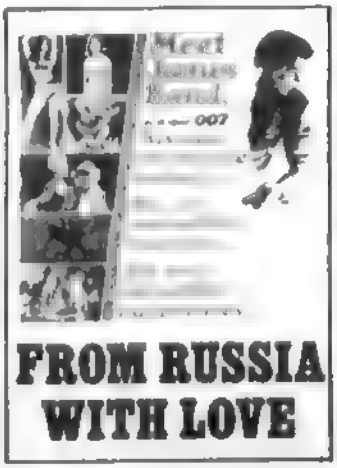
JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH, by Jules Verne A trip to the planet's core where monsters and an alien world await our cast of adventurers Sci-fi's classic! #2360 $2.49

THE INVISIBLE MAN by HG Wells A fanatical scientist makes himself invisible and thereafter goes slowly insane But how does one deal with a criminal who cannot be seen? #2359 $2.49

WHILE THEY LAST! JAMES BOND 007 POSTERS!

EXCLUSIVE! MOTION PICTURE POSTERS. ORIGINAL FULL-SIZE ONE SHEETS IN COLOR AND MINT CONDITION! FEATURES BOND, HIS FOES, AND HIS WOMEN.

These are the films that made Bond famous! And the world's most indestructible spy is back in the form of magnificent collector's item posters. Each is a big 27"x40", and will add a touch of intrigue to your favorite wall. But our supply of these rare, high-quality pin-ups is limited, so be sure to order yours today!



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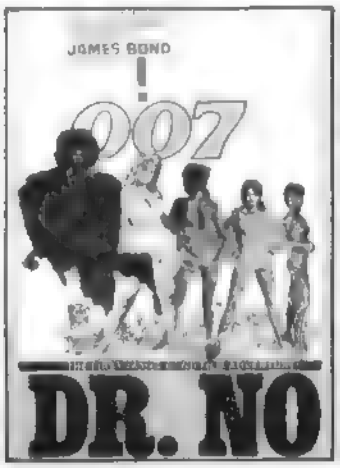

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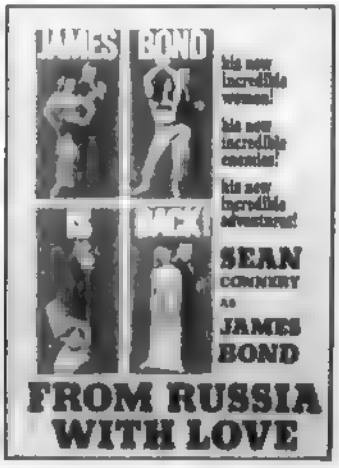

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THINK THESE JIGSAW PUZZLES ARE EASY?

TWO-SIDED HOBBIT PUZZLE

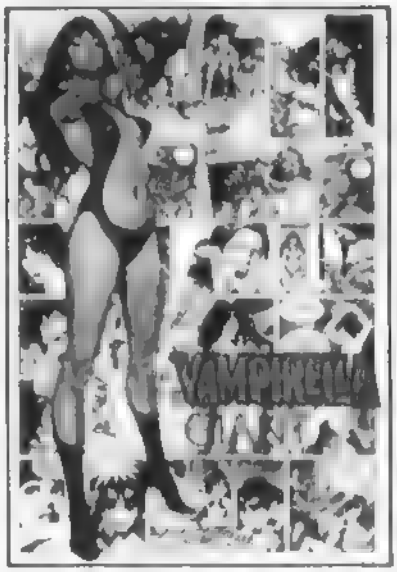
A Brand-new puzzle based on J.R.R. Tolkien's classic fantasy, "The Lord of the Rings." "The Hobbit" is a two-sided puzzle, with this side featuring a map of Middle Earth. Relive Bilbo's travels through the lands of Griador and Rhovanion. This big color puzzle is 15"x21" and contains over 500 pieces. #24112/$4.95

After you've completed the Middle Earth puzzle, simply turn it over to begin on a beautiful Middle Earth landscape. This unique new concept provides puzzle lovers with hours of challenging fun and amusement.

MIDDLE-EARTH MURAL

This Middle-Earth Mural completes the collector's series of "Lord of the Rings" puzzles. It is 15"x21" with over 500 interlocking pieces. It is a stunning, beautiful work of art in fabulous fantasy color. A must for Lord of the Rings fans and puzzle freaks. Don't miss it. #24128/$4.95

VAMPIRELLA



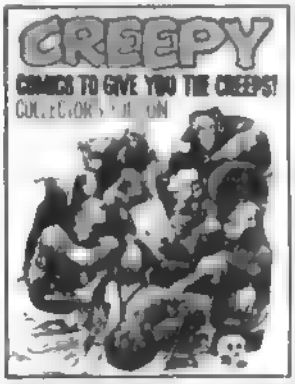
At last! A jigsaw puzzle featuring everyone's favorite female, Vampirella. This puzzle features Vampi in the classic Gonzalez pose! A 15"x21" collector's item! Color. 500+ pieces. #24126/$2.98

CHEECH WIZARD

Vaughn Bode's "Cheech Wizard" comic strip has been a favorite with fans everywhere. Now Bode has created an original puzzle featuring Cheech the Hat! $4.95 15"x21", 500+ pieces. #24127.

CREEPY

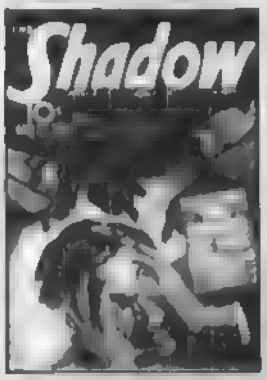
The cover of issue #1 is the subject of this Warren puzzle. Jack Davis created the original concept of old Uncle Creepy for this collector's item book. Get this great illustration in the form of a 17"x11" puzzle. 250 pieces. Color! Don't miss it. #2425/$3.50



EERIE

From the magnificent brush of artist Frank Frazetta comes the cover of Eerie #23. This superb painting is now a full color giant 15"x21" poster puzzle featuring the best in high quality puzzle entertainment. Over 500 pieces. A Warren cover. #2429/$2.98

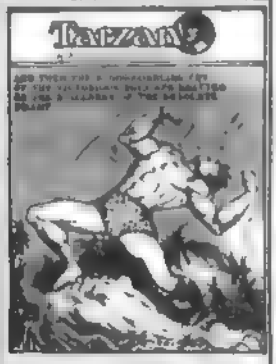
A Warren cover masterpiece! Evily, a demon mistress of darkness appears here just the way she did on the cover of Vampi #2. Color. 250+ pieces. #2426. $2.98



The deadly traveler of the shadows lives again! An original cover from a '40s Shadow pulp. 16"x20". Over 400 pieces. Color. #2430. $4.98

Relive a bygone era when crime was king! An original pulp magazine cover dating to the 30s. Over 500 pieces. Color. #2432. $4.98

Nostalgia buffs and puzzle connoisseurs will love this reproduction of a 1930's pulp cover. Over 500 pieces. #2431. $4.98



Tarzan the victorious bull-ape! An Original Sunday comics page by Burne Hogarth! A true work of art by one of the master illustrators. Over 500 pcs. #2455/$4.98

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FULL COLOR MONSTER MOVIES

8mm and SUPER 8mm FILMS BY HARRYHAUSEN IN BW OR COLOR

Now you can own these Regular or Super 8mm home movies, each one an acknowledged masterpiece of the fantasy genre. Created by Ray Harryhausen, the world's greatest special effectsman, these films feature some of the most astounding monsters and scenes of devastation ever filmed. And, if you journey with Jason in search of the Golden Fleece, or with Sinbad to the demonic isle of Colossa, there's the added dimension of color. The colors full and crisp; so much so that you will feel as if you are right in the midst of the action! Each film is a full 200' in length and runs a total of twelve minutes. A complete set of Jason or Sinbad adventures runs close to a full hour!

THE 4 FILMS OF 7TH VOYAGE OF SINBAD

CHAPTER ONE
"The Cyclops"
Sinbad and his men interrupt their lengthy voyage with a stop on the dangerous Colossa Island. There, they seek food and water. Upon landing, they are met by the evil magician Sokurah who is being chased by an enormous Cyclops. It's an incredible battle between man and monster . . . until the genie of the lamp intervenes! BW #22006 $9.95 Color $19.95. #22030

CHAPTER TWO
"Strange Voyage"
Sinbad's beloved Princess Parisa is reduced to six inches in height. Only a piece of shell from the egg of the monstrous Colossa bird the Roc can restore her to normal. But the seas back to Colossa are fraught with danger . . . such as evil winds, mutinous sailors and the ear-piercing Sirens. Will Sinbad's ship survive? BW $9.95 #22007 Color $19.95. #22031

CHAPTER THREE
"Evil Magician"
Sinbad and his men reach Colossa, and scale the craggy peaks to the Roc's nest. There, they do battle with the great two-headed bird and Sinbad is captured by the monster. If that weren't enough, a living human skeleton is brought to life by Sokurah to menace the adventurous seamen. And there are still surprises galore! BW $9.95. #22008 Color. $19.95. #22032

CHAPTER FOUR
"Dragon's Lair"
After returning the princess to her normal size, Sokurah looses his fire-breathing dragon after Sinbad and Parisa. Just as he's about to get them, the Cyclops comes to their rescue. A battle to the death ensues, and the one-eyed creature is beaten. The dragon chases the pair to the sea where it is a fight of fights! BW $9.95 #22009 Color $19.95 #22033

THE 4 FILMS OF JASON AND THE ARGONAUTS

CHAPTER ONE
"Battle With Talos"
Jason and his hearty Argonauts brave incredible peril to find the legendary Golden Fleece. And their first obstacle is an island on which lives the indestructible Man of Bronze known as Talos. Hundreds of feet tall, weapons are useless against the metal monster. Can he be stopped? BW $9.95 #20010 Color $19.95 #22034

CHAPTER TWO
"Triton, Lord of the Deep"
The next impasse is the infamous menace of the Clashing Rocks. These are mountains in the sea that are alive! Jason must pass thru them . . . and faces destruction. Then as doom nears, the giant God Triton comes to the rescue. And a surprise awaits Jason: in the waters floats a beautiful young girl! BW $9.95. #22011 Color $19.95 #22035

CHAPTER THREE
"Hydra of Hades"
After being captured by the inhabitants of Colchis, land of the Golden Fleece, Jason breaks free. Then, in a diamond and gold studded cave, he finds the Fleece. But guarding it is the Hydra, a seven headed dragon. It kills one of Jason's men and then goes after the hero himself! Exciting! BW $9.95 / #22012 Color $19.95 #22036

CHAPTER FOUR
Golden Fleece
Jason and his men grab the Fleece and run! But their way is barred, first, by a flaming fireball from the sky and second by an army of killer skeleton warriors. These grew from the teeth of the dead Hydra. And the nine skeletons battle Jason and two men in an incredible finale. Two men die. BW $9.95 #22013 Color 9.95 #22037

GANGSTER HOME MOVIES

Thrills Galore On 200' Reels, Sup Or Reg 8

Here are the great stars in action-packed gangster films that you can own and show in your home. Bogart, Cagney, Kirk Douglas, Rod Steiger: Just some of the names represented by these fine home movies.

KIRK DOUGLAS IN DETECTIVE STORY

One of the great American actors, Kirk Douglas stars [illegible] as [illegible] of a detective [illegible] by the [illegible] ment he [illegible] Can he overcome the overwhelming odds? Available in Super 8 film only. An exciting home [illegible] #22022/$9.95

SOLD OUT

THE MAN CALLED BOGART

A selection of the best work of Humphrey Bogart. Featured in this potpourri of classic film clips are scenes from the motion pictures "Casablanca," "Maltese Falcon" and all the great Bogart roles. Lots of action superimposed titles, a must for all movie fans. #22021 $9.95

JAMES CAGNEY IN PUBLIC ENEMY

This is the film that brought James Cagney and Jean Harlow together for the first time. And it is generally acknowledged to be the finest gangster film ever made. The story tells of rival bad guys fighting it out for underworld supremacy. The end of the film is a real shocker. #22023/$9.95

LAWRENCE TIERNEY AS DILLINGER

Here is the true story of public enemy [illegible]. Gang wars and waves of brutal [illegible] rule the city streets as the [illegible] gang strikes! Can the forces of good deter the [illegible] gang of killers? It all comes together in a rousing climax as cops vs robbers in showdown. Who wins? #22020 $9.95

ROD STEIGER IS AL CAPONE

Here is one of the great gangster films. Rod Steiger and Fay Spain star in this vivid retelling of the story of one of America's most notorious gangland leaders. The flavor of the 1920's is brought to exciting life in the action-packed story of the legendary killer. Order #22019 $9.95

HOW TO SUCCEED AS A GANGSTER

This is the big one! Features all the big names of motion pictures gangsterdom. Magnificent clips from the films of Edward G. Robinson, James Cagney, Humphrey Bogart and the other greats. The movies featured include Little Caesar and many, many more. A must for fans. #22027 $9.95

REGULAR 8 & SUPER 8 MONSTER FILMS!

ABBOTT & COSTELLO 200' HOME MOVIES!

ABBOTT & COSTELLO IN ROCKET & ROLL
Our heroes wander into a space ship and are launched. The craft heads for Venus. There Abbott and Costello meet with inhabitants of the world . . . all beautiful women! The pair makes the best of the situation! But the mysterious planet holds even more surprises for our heroes. #2239 $9.95

ABBOTT & COSTELLO MEET DR. JEKYLL
Boris Karloff plays Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde in this notous Abbott and Costello extravaganza. The Bumbling pair gets involved with the good Doctor's experiments and before the film is over, Costello himself becomes a monster and subsequently infects Scotland Yard. Ten hairy monsters #2240 $9.95

ABBOTT & COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN
While serving as postal workers, our heroes deliver the craft containing the Frankenstein monster to Castle Dracula. Dracula plans to put Costello's brain in the monster. The wolfman, Count Dracula's archenemy discovers the nefarious plot and goes to the castle to destroy the villain. #2241 $9.95

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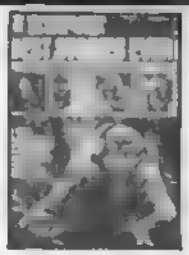
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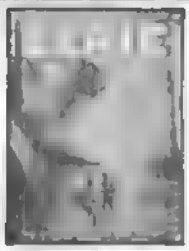
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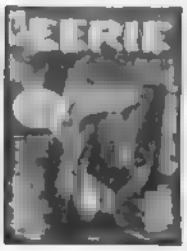
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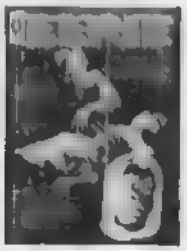
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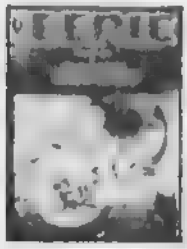
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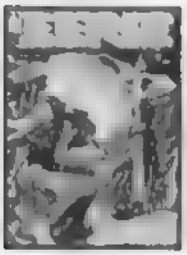
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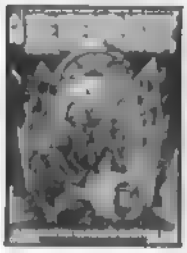
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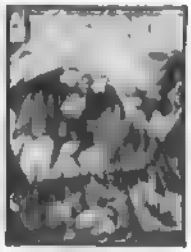
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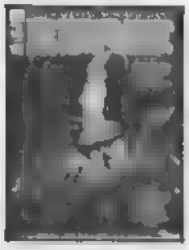
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HAVE YOU READ GRAY MORROW'S "WARDROBE OF MONSTERS?" JEFF JONES' "TO SLAY A DRAGON?" ALEX TOTH'S "THE STALKERS?" WHAT ABOUT ANGELO TORRES' "A HOWLING SUCCESS?" GENE COLON DID A FINE JOB ON "TO PAY THE PIPER!" ESTEBAN MAROTO'S ENTIRE "DAX" SERIES WAS SPECTACULAR! AND JOSE ORTIZ' "JACKASS" SERIES WAS GRAPHIC MADNESS! AS WAS AURALEON'S "JUST PASSING THROUGH!" PAUL NEARY'S "DERELICT" WAS A FINE SCI-FI CLASSIC. NEAL ADAMS' "VOO-DOO DRUMS" WAS OUT OF THIS WORLD! AL WILLIAMSON'S "THE LIGHTHOUSE" WAS A REAL TERROR TALE, AS WAS "CURSE OF THE VAMPIRE" BY MARTIN SALVADOR AND JOSE BEA'S "HEAD SHOP." ISIDRO MONES' THE EVIL THAT MEN DO" WAS SPECTACULAR. AND THE RICH CORBEN FULL-COLOR MINI-SERIES, "CHILD," WAS A MASTERPIECE. BERNI WRIGHTSON'S "THE PEPPER LAKE MONSTER" WAS A COLLECTOR'S DREAM . . . A FIRST CLASS E-C TRADITION CLASSIC WALLY WOOD'S "MANHUNTER" WAS UNFORGETTABLE. DON'T MISS EVEN ONE OF THESE CLASSIC EERIE TALES. TALES FULL OF UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURE. EXCITEMENT. TERROR. SPLENDID TALES FILLED WITH GOBLINS, WITCHES, DEMONS, ROBOTS, ALIENS . . . DERANGED ASSORTMENT OF ALL THE HORROR FILLED CREATIONS THAT POPULATE THE EARTH . . . AND THE WORLD BEYOND! OWN THEM ALL!

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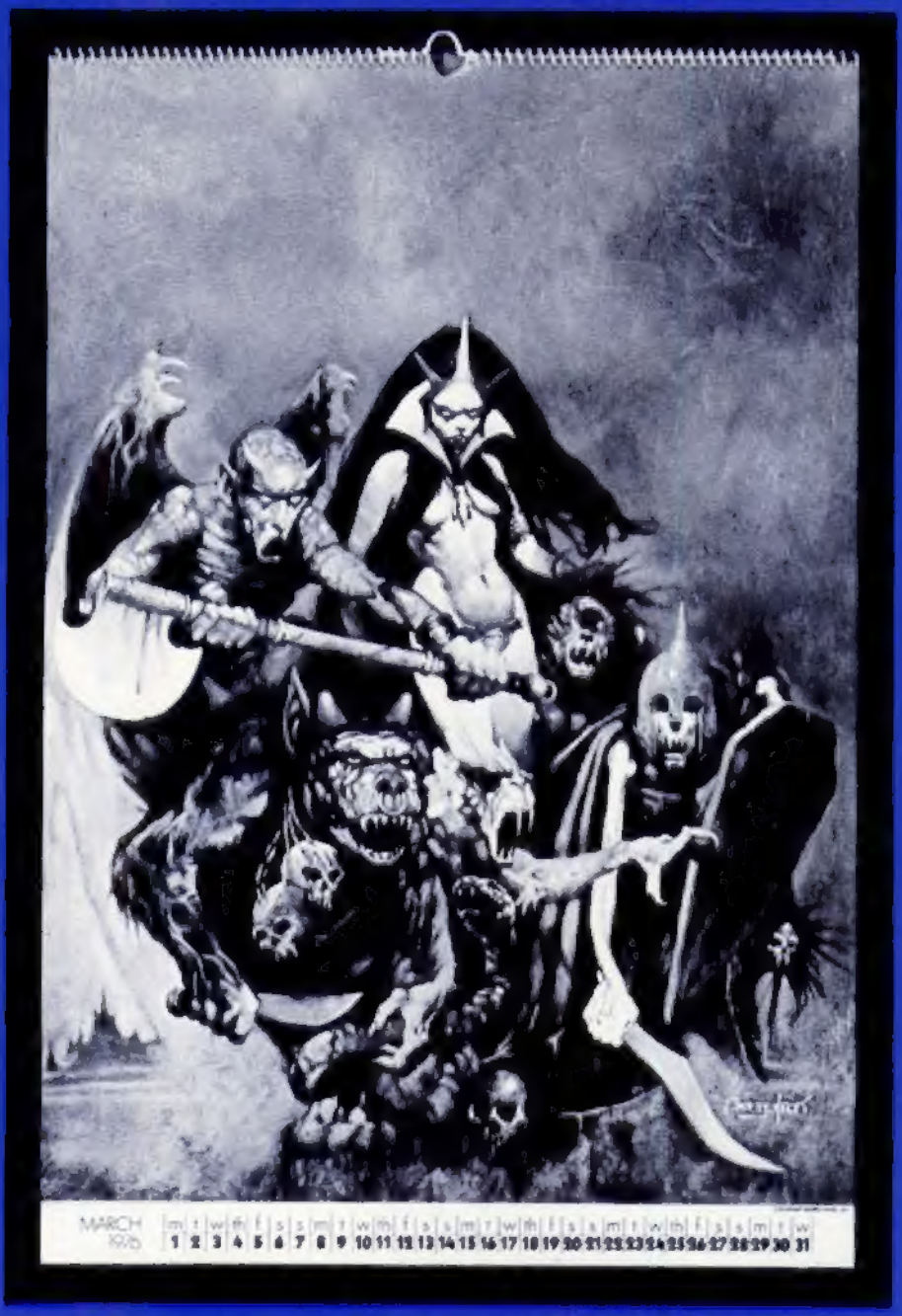

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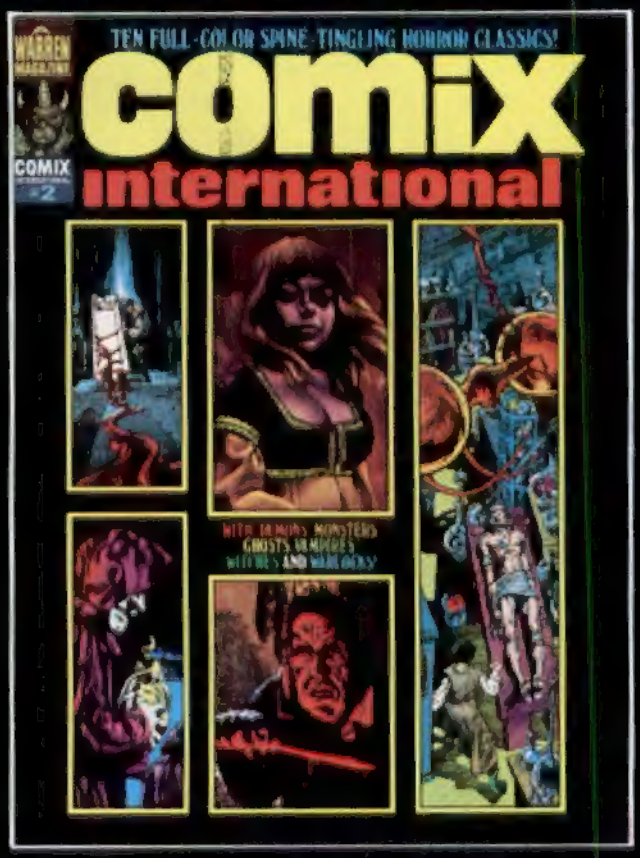
COMIX INTERNATIONAL No. 2



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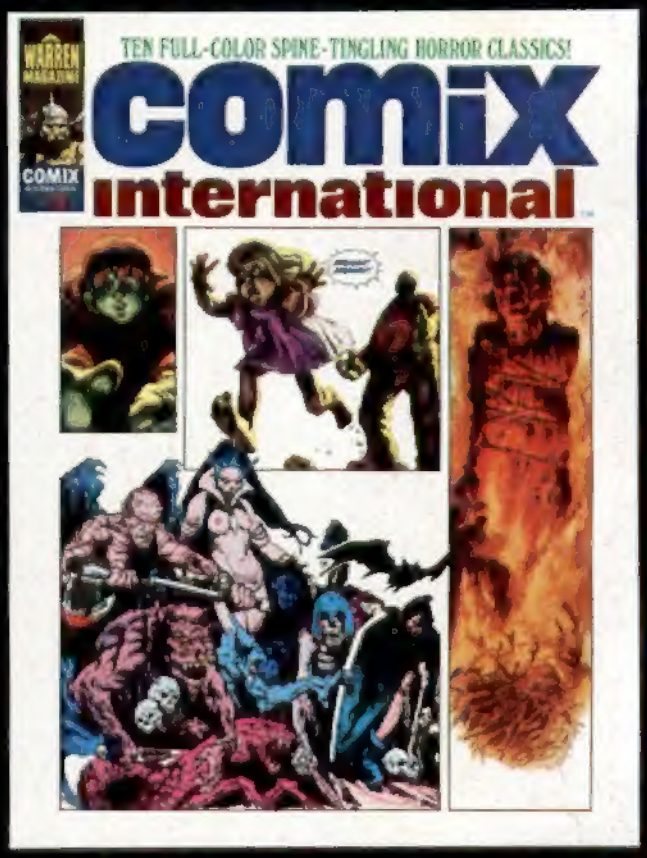

Is reality here? Now? Or does it lie out there . . . behind your TV screen's "Black and White Vacuum to Blues?" Who is "Harry?" A demonic entity? Or a little girl's purple stuffed rabbit? The last man on earth is dead! What makes it "A Wonderful Morning?" You're the only man . . . crash landed on a planet of beautiful, male-starved women! And this is bad? What happens when a Child . . . created big, green and ugly, from carcasses of dead animals . . . is loosed on an unsuspecting world? In what horror does his "Childhood End?" Why does Dax the Warrior, fated to failure and death, fight on? Can any man . . . even a man at a "Dead Run," escape death? Do wooden marionettes possess evil, twisted souls? What is sure fire insurance against lycanthropy? Why is "An Angle Shy of Hell?" And why is he smiling? The answers to these questions lie in COMIX INTERNATIONAL #3! A new magazine featuring eleven full color stories by Rich Corben, Esteban Maroto, Fernando Fernandez, Jose Bea and Jeff Jones! Slick Magazine format! Heavy-weight paper! Quality printing! The supply is limited! Order now! COMIX INTERNATIONAL #3. #1CI3/$3.98